

Hafa Adai!

8 NMI students are finalists in 9th Circuit Civics Contest. **PAGE 3**
BWA, NMTech ink MOU on drone delivery system. **PAGE 4**

\$1

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Search for missing teen ends

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
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REPORTER

After three days of searching, the Department of Public Safety and collaborating agencies have officially called off the search for 14-year-old Bradley Delos Santos who was swept out to sea last Saturday afternoon.

DPS' Boating Safety ended the search and rescue mission around 6pm last Tuesday, May 2. Delos Santos, who was swept out to sea at Marine Beach in Kagman last Saturday, remains missing.

According to DPS spokesperson Fred Sato, they were

unable to locate the missing swimmer despite the amount of resources from multiple local, federal, and military agencies that were allocated to search for Delos Santos for 72 hours.

"We urge the public to re-
See SEARCH on Page 4

Gas prices down 10 cents

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
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REPORTER

The downward trend in fuel prices continues, with the CNMI seeing yet another

10-cent rollback in gas prices early yesterday morning.

Mobil Oil Marianas rolled back its fuel prices early yesterday morning, for the
See GAS on Page 4

Palacios, Villagomez in DC for nat'l investment summit

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Gov. Arnold I. Palacios and House of Representatives Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) are in

Washington, D.C. to attend the four-day 2023 SelectUSA Investment Summit as part of the CNMI's efforts to attract new investments.

Acting governor David M. Apatang
See PALACIOS on Page 4



Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, left, and House of Representatives Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), right, pose for a photo with U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam Marc E. Knapper during one of the opening events for the 2023 SelectUSA Investment Summit in Washington, D.C. The conference kicked off May 1 and will end on May 4.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



MAY IS MARIANAS TOURISM MONTH

Lt. Gov David M. Apatang, in his capacity as acting governor, signs the proclamation that designates the month of May as Marianas Tourism Month in a ceremony yesterday at the Office of the Governor's conference room. Joining Apatang at the ceremony were Marianas Visitors Authority acting board chair Gloria Cavanagh, MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion, MVA board members, MVA management and staff, local dignitaries, and members of the Saipan Southern High School MyWAVE Club.

SCC delegation to lobby for touchback delay

By **MARK RABAGO**
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Saipan Chamber of Com-

merce is sending a delegation to Washington, D.C. before the end of the month to support Delegate Gregorio Kilili

C. Sablan's (D-MP) bill to delay by three years the "touchback provision" of the North-

See SCC on Page 4

'TOUCHBACK' COUNTDOWN

Days until
'touchback rule'
takes effect on
Sept. 30, 2023:

149

INSIDE



BUSINESS

Java Joe's in Dandan has again expanded their eclectic menu with a slew of new food offerings.

PAGE 11



NATION

A four-day manhunt in Texas for a gunman accused of killing five neighbors ended Tuesday.

PAGE 12



WORLD

The U.S. is sending Ukraine about \$300 million in additional military aid, including more firepower.

PAGE 13



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Local

US Coast Guard backs CPA request for add'l funding

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
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REPORTER

The U.S. Coast Guard Forces Micronesia – Sector Guam has written to the U.S. Department of Transportation to support the Commonwealth Ports Authority's recent request for supplemental funding to keep the agency afloat until fiscal year 2026.

Capt. Nicholas Simmons,

commander of U.S. Coast Guard Forces Micronesia – Sector Guam, has personally written to U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg to support CPA and its request for funding to continue operating the CNMI's ports of entry.

CPA is asking the U.S. DOT for a total of \$30 million in supplemental funding—\$15 million for fiscal year 2024 and \$15 million

for fiscal year 2025. CPA believes this amount will keep the CNMI's ports in operation until fiscal year 2026.

Simmons stated in his letter that the maritime transportation system facilities within CPA remain the only cost-effective means of importing critical food, medical supplies, equipment, and other essential goods to the islands.

“Continuous unimpeded port operations to facilitate the flow of commerce is critical not only to the island communities the ports serve, but is equally important to sustaining the markedly increased Department of Defense footprint within the greater Marianas chain. Given the stark fiscal projections affecting the airports within the CPA, it is merely a matter of time

before any reprogramming of the CNMI government's operational funds begin to impact the seaports. As the Captain of the Port for both CNMI and Guam, I have grave concerns regarding potential port funding reductions and the subsequent cascading effects this could have within our area of responsibility,” he said. “Recognizing CNMI's strategic importance, not only to national security interests, but also to the efficiency of the national supply chain and its U.S. carriers operating in the Pacific, I am reiterating my full support of CPA's effort and look forward to your agency's positive response.”

Gen. Kenneth Wilsbach of the U.S. Air Force, commander of the Pacific Air Forces, has also written in support of CPA's need for funding.

“I am very interested in preserving the viability of air and seaports across [the] CNMI, and I'm deeply concerned about the economic trends outlined in your letter to Secretary Buttigieg. As Pacific Air Forces commander, I have consistently advocated for

increased investment in CNMI ports, and I'm excited about the many on-going projects across this vital region,” he said.

Currently, PACAF has \$444 million of on-going Investment at Tinian International Airport.

Additionally, PACAF is continuing to partner with the CPA on potential near-term investments at the Tinian North Field, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, and Rota International Airport.

“While these investments might not directly address some of the concerns in your letter, I think PACAF's investments will rebuild some of the infrastructure damaged by Super Typhoon Yutu, increase overall operational capacity, generate jobs and revenue for the local communities, and ultimately posture CNMI for future increases in tourism. PACAF will continue to work with the CPA to shape investments across CNMI, and I will continue to advocate to preserve the operational viability of your ports through IN-DOPACOM and Air Force channels,” he said.

Hafa Adai!

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PET OF THE WEEK

Birdie

Birdie, an adorable female Chihuahua-corgi mix, is such a wiggly, cuddly lovebug! She is shy for a minute, then just full of love and kisses. She's the sweetest, cutest, and tiniest little girl. And just look at that smile! Who can resist that smile?!

If you're interested in adopting Birdie, please contact the Saipan Mayor's Office Animal Shelter in As Perdido for more information.

Shelter hours are from Monday to Friday, 7:30am to 4:30pm. Contact them at (670)-234-3647 (DOGS). You can also make your way to the shelter to check out more dogs available for adoption!

For inquiries about veterinary services please reach out to Saipan Humane Society at info@saipanhumanesociety.org or WhatsApp +1 (670) 838-7387.



Saipan Tribune is partnering with Lauren Cabrera, co-founder of the Boonie Flight Project of Guam, in collaboration with the Saipan Mayor's Office Animal Shelter in As Perdido, to feature their adoptable dogs into loving homes. Whether you are looking for a guard dog, lap dog, hiking buddy, or playful puppy, they most likely have the dog for you!

8 NMI students are finalists in 9th Circuit Civics Contest

By **CHRYSTAL MARINO**
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CORRESPONDENT

Outreach Committee, judges, and court executives will

determine the final winners at the circuit level.

Winners will be announced on the civics contest website:

<https://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/civicscontest/> in June 2023.

First-place winners at the
See 8 NMI on Page 4

Eight students from the CNMI were officially named finalists in the national 2023 Ninth Circuit Civics Contest, with their video and essay entries advancing to the circuit level after the preliminary round.

In the essay category of the annual competition, all three winners are from Marianas High School. A U.S. Courts for the Ninth Circuit news release yesterday said that Jaimier Shawne Casama took first place and won \$100 as his prize. Tyana Kay Cepeda took second place and its \$75 prize, while Jia Ross Nicdao won third place and got \$50.

The CNMI students who had winning video entries were Kagman High School duo Xinyi Ni and Vincent Razon, who took first place; the team of Joseph Victor Jimenez and Pony Tang from Marianas High School, who followed in second place; and Gavril Myles Santiago from Mt. Carmel School taking third place. The first-place team will be rewarded \$100, the second-place winner will receive \$75, and the third place will be given \$50.

As one of the 15 judicial districts throughout the Ninth Circuit, the Northern Marianas held the local civics contest as a preliminary and elimination round, before submitting the top essays and videos to advance to the circuit level for the preliminary round in the 2023 Ninth Circuit Civics Contest.

In all, the Ninth Circuit received 966 essays and 86 videos this year, for a total of 1,052 entries.

Right now, judges, members of the bar, and court staff are reviewing and scoring the 45 essays and 30 videos that were selected to advance to the preliminary round at the circuit level.

The contest was open all students from grades 9-12, whether in public, private, parochial, charter schools and home-schooled children, as long as they were of equivalent grade status in Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington state, the U.S. territory of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

With the theme "The 28th Amendment to the United States Constitution: What Should Our Next Amendment Be?" students were challenged to answer and to focus on three questions: "What amendment would they propose for our Constitution... and why?" Also, "how would they get their amendment ratified?"

The Ninth Circuit Public Information and Community

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BWA, NMTech ink MOU on drone delivery system

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

An unmanned aerial vehicle company based in Guam called Bella Wings Aviation LLC has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Northern Marianas Technical Institute to manufacture the first groundbreaking drone delivery system in the CNMI.

The MOU will have BWA and NMTech setting up an apprenticeship program in collaboration with the CNMI Department of Labor to develop a local workforce that will be developed for this potential new industry, which will use drones to deliver to inaccessible areas in the CNMI.

BWA chief executive officer and co-founder Charlie Hermosa and Hermosa's partner, BWA-Valqari

CEO Ryan Walsh, did a presentation about their program before members of the Legislature and some Cabinet officials in the governor's conference room Tuesday afternoon.

Before the start of the presentation, Oscar M. Babauta, the special assistant for the Palacios-Apatang administration, said that NMTech will be working closely with the new venture. Babauta said this will not only bring economic prosperity to the people and the islands, but it will also initiate the start of a new industry, making available "tools for our younger generation and that is to go into high-tech manufacturing."

In his message, which Babauta read to BWA officials last Tuesday, Gov. Arnold I. Palacios said this collaboration between BWA and NMTech will kickstart the

development of a new technology industry in the CNMI. "The use of technology is ever growing in everyday life. The CNMI takes pride in leading the way for bringing a new era of convenience and reliability to the region," the governor's message said.

Palacios is currently in the U.S. mainland on an official trip.

Palacios said he had heard that Hermosa had been traveling back and forth between Guam and the CNMI and had hired residents to conduct administrative work and research needed to make this drone industry a reality. Shortly after, he said, BWA began conducting demonstrations to first responders of the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, Department of Public Safety, and Emergency

Management Office on the implementation of an effective drone and its enhanced situational awareness.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com



Oscar M. Babauta, who is the special assistant for the Palacios-Apatang administration, reads the message of Gov. Arnold I. Palacios and Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang for the Bella Wings Aviation officials and their partners during BWA's presentation on automated drone delivery and droneports in the governor's conference room Tuesday afternoon.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

PALACIOS

From Page 1

Apatang told *Saipan Tribune* Tuesday that Palacios left the CNMI Saturday to attend the conference and will be back this Saturday.

Apatang said all governors from other U.S. territories are participating in the SelectUSA Investment Summit, which is organized by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Palacios said in a statement yesterday that the CNMI's participation will raise the Commonwealth's exposure to hundreds of foreign direct investors that have been previously screened by USDOC.

"There are numerous potential industries that we can develop in the CNMI to diversify our economy, and participation in the SelectUSA Summit will be a timely, cost-effective, and appropriate way to meet with hundreds of pre-selected investors in

a single place," said Palacios.

Villagomez confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* Tuesday night that he is joining the summit, which kicked off May 1 and will end May 4.

Last Friday, Villagomez informed House members that he will be out of the CNMI from April 29 to May 7 on official business trip. Vice speaker Rep. Joel C. Camacho (Ind-Saipan) is the acting speaker.

In response to *Saipan Tribune's* inquiry, Senate president Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan) said yesterday that she was asked to join the summit, but did not have the funds to travel. DeLeon Guerrero said she is not aware of any other senator attending the summit.

According to the Office of the Governor yesterday, the SelectUSA Investment Summit is the highest-profile event dedicated to promoting foreign direct investment in the U.S. and U.S. territories, including the CNMI.

This year's summit is expected to

feature thousands of attendees representing over 80 markets, as well as over 1,900 foreign investors that have been vetted by the USDOC.

For the first time, the summit will also include an in-person session that will specifically focus on investment opportunities in the U.S. territories.

At yesterday's session, Palacios would be joining other insular area governors in engaging companies and organizations about the benefits and advantages of investing in the CNMI and other territories.

Aside from Palacios, those who confirmed to speak during the session yesterday were American Samoa Gov. Lemanu Palepoi Sialega Mauga, Guam Gov. Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, Puerto Rico Gov. Pedro Pierluisi, and U.S. Virgin Islands Lt. Gov. Tregenza A. Roach.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

SEARCH

From Page 1

port any sightings related to this search to [DPS] for proper handling. DPS appreciates the cooperation of the families involved and partners," he said.

Other collaborating entities that joined the search were the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, DPS Search and Rescue unit, Commonwealth Ports Authority Ports Police Harbor Patrol, Customs & Biosecurity Marine enforcement, BECQ/CRM, Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Coast Guard cutter *Oliver Henry*, U.S. Attorney's Office for the CNMI/Guam District, and the U.S. Navy HSC Squadron 25.

"We [had] five boats from different agencies like Customs and Border

Protection, Customs and Biosecurity, BECQ, DPS Boating Safety, and Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services rescue boat [plus] the U.S. Coast Guard cutter. We also conduct[ed] dives. We employed divers to search the waters and the U.S. Coast Guard helicopter [was] also deployed," Sato said.

As per standard procedures for search and rescue operations, a search must be called off after 72 hours or three days.

Acting governor David M. Apatang shared his heartfelt condolences to the family experiencing the loss of loved one.

"It was an unfortunate situation. I know the family very well. That place is known to sweep people out because the ocean there can get really rough, making it hard to come back up," he said.

lon while diesel went from \$5.58 per gallon to \$5.43.

Before this, local oil companies implemented a 10-cent decrease in fuel prices last April 24, from \$5.41 per gallon of regular fuel to \$5.31.

Local motorists seemed neutral about the new rollback.

"It's 10 cents. It's good, but not that great," said a 45-year-old male.

A 28-year-old motorist jokingly

Apatang said the administration is working on possibly drafting a resolution to spread awareness about Marine Beach and how dangerous the site can be.

According to a previous article on *Saipan Tribune*, Delos Santos, his brother, and two friends had gone to Marine Beach last Saturday afternoon and were making their way to the beach's infinity pool when a large wave crashed into them and dragged them into the open ocean. Three of the boys managed to climb a nearby rock but Delos Santos struggled to swim.

The victim's brother went back into the water to help his brother and even managed to grab hold of Delos Santos' hand, but another wave came and crashed into the two boys, splitting them up. When Delos Santos' brother came back up, the victim was nowhere in sight.

said she would save her amazement for when fuel rolls back by a dollar.

"I would be more amazed by a \$1 rollback. But 10 cents is OK," she said.

Meanwhile, a 26-year-old female motorist was ecstatic.

"I'm so thankful I didn't gas up this week. I'm definitely going to fill my tank up today. That 10 cents adds up when you have a V6," she said.

SCC

From Page 1

ern Marianas Islands U.S. Workforce Act (Public Law 115-218).

The delegation will be spearheaded by Chamber president Joe C. Guerrero and director Alex Sablan.

"We're going to express the concerns that we have about the touchback provision and why there is a need from a commerce standpoint and not from an immigration standpoint [to delay the implementation of the touchback provision]," said Sablan during yesterday's monthly Chamber meeting at Hyatt Regency Saipan.

He added that like what Delegate Sablan said in previous meetings with the Chamber, there is some pushback on his H.R. 1420 in the U.S. Congress, which is why the Chamber needs to once again "explain and educate members of Congress as to why this is impactful and why we need to get it done."

H.R. 1420 seeks to modify the requirement for foreign workers in the CNMI—called Commonwealth-Only Transitional Workers (CW-1)—to exit the CNMI while the third renewal of their work visa is being processed.

"We're hopeful that in a perfect world when we do this trip, [Delegate] Kilili is able to get this on the floor and that nobody has any objections and it passes without objection on the House and Senate floors," Alex Sablan said.

At its core, Alex Sablan said the bill to delay the touchback provision is not an immigration bill—as critics of the legislation portray it.

"Interestingly enough, none of our immigration bills have been immigration bills. Most have been a product of usually territorial omnibus legislation. There are a couple of bills that are coming into play and we're hoping to tuck into that and basically it passes through that process," Alex Sablan said.

When asked by Chamber member Eden Ordas as to when, if ever, the bill to delay will be passed, Alex Sablan said, "That's the \$64-million question."

"I don't have an answer for you, but hopefully before the summertime. But as I mentioned, timing is of the essence. It is crunch time here. Because we are in a renewal timeline."

Triple J vice president Mike Sablan also advised the Chamber that if they do send a delegation to the country's capital, it should include members of the administration of Gov. Arnold I. Palacios and Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang. Alex Sablan assured that indeed it will.

"This is going to be a coordinated effort. The hope is that we will get our working group together and there will be other individuals accompanying us as we've done in the past. We had members of the Cabinet and even the governor helped us open up doors in the past. This is how we have been able to accomplish this in the past. And yes, it's always been a coordinated effort," Alex Sablan said.

He added that they already have a tentative meeting with Delegate Sablan early on in the trip. "I'm hopeful that sets the timeline of cooperation that we will have in D.C, while we're there."

The Chamber also invited other members to join the trip, emphasizing that it's a voluntary endeavor and those joining will have to pay for their own trip.

"I think a show of force is always a good effort. The conversation usually goes roundtable. Everybody has a message to provide about the impact [the touchback] will have in the community and their individual businesses and whatnot and it's usually good for getting the information across," he said.

The Chamber yesterday deviated from its usual agenda, opting instead to have a discussion centered on "Navigating Current Issues in Commonwealth Business."

8 NMI

From Page 3

circuit level will be invited to attend the 2023 Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference, and a total of \$11,400 in cash prizes will be awarded to the Top 3

essay and video winners. Circuit-level winners will receive \$3,000 for first place, \$1,700 for second place and \$1,000 for third place along with a commemorative prize. If those who win in the of the video portion of the competition are part of a team, then they will split the total cash prize.

GAS

From Page 1

second time in less than a month. Shell Marianas is expected to follow suit today.

Mobil now charges \$5.21 per gallon of Extra fuel from \$5.31. Mobil's Supreme Fuel also went down from \$5.76 to \$5.66 per gal-



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MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang is joined by Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Dr. Esther L. Muña, other CHCC officials, partnering agencies, local dignitaries, and members of the community after Apatang, in his capacity as acting governor, designated the month of May as Mental Health Awareness Month during a proclamation signing ceremony at the Saipan World Resort yesterday.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



NEW DPW CHIEF

Gov. Arnold I. Palacios and Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang pose for a picture with newly sworn-in Department of Public Works Secretary Ray N. Yumul. Palacios administered the oath of office to Yumul last Thursday at the Office of the Governor conference room.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES IN SPOTLIGHT

Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang is joined by Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services acting commissioner Juan T. Pua, DFEMS personnel, and Cabinet officials in front of the Office of the Governor last May 1 after proclaiming the week of May 21-27, 2023 as Emergency Medical Services Week, with this year's theme, "Where Emergency Care Begins," and May 24, 2023, as Emergency Medical Services for Children Day.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



NMI CRIME STOPPERS MONTH

Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang is joined by Department of Public Safety Commissioner Clement R. Bermudes, NMI Crime Stoppers chair Brian Clayton, and members of DPS and NMI Crime Stoppers in front of the Office of the Governor after designating the month of May as NMI Crime Stoppers Month. The purpose of the program is to bring together the community and DPS by providing anonymous tips about crimes that occur in our Commonwealth. This has resulted in over 2,140 tips, 304 arrests, the recovery of \$298,233 in stolen property, and the seizure of nearly \$2,727,575 worth of illegal narcotics.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1178 Hinemlu' St., Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

PHARMACY TECHNICIANS: Bach. deg. in Pharmacy (may be foreign equiv); 2yrs. exp; must be certified pharmacy technician; must be registered as a pharmacy technician with the CNMI Health Care Professions Licensing Board. Prepares medication & performs duties under the direction of Pharmacist at hospital located in Saipan, CNMI.

Send resume to:
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION, HR DEPT.
P.O. BOX 500409, Saipan, MP 96950

Name : LUCINDA C. KUKKUN
Address : P.O BOX 502610 SAIPAN, MP 96950
Phone: (670) 287-3536/
(670) 322-3536

Pro Se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re the Matter of the Petition for the Appointment of General Guardianship for:] FCD-GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 23-0085
C.C.L. Minor Child] NOTICE OF HEARING
By:]
<u>LUCINDA C. KUKKUN</u> Petitioner]

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on May 22, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom 217A before Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

Dated this 16th day of March, 2023.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/
By: Deputy Clerk of Court



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1178 Hinemlu' St., Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENTISTS: Assoc. deg. in laboratory or biological science or medical technology (may be foreign equiv); 2yrs. exp. in the job or as clinical/medical laboratory technician/technologist; CNMI Health Care Professions License; possess license to practice laboratory medicine from the American Society for Clinical Pathology or American Medical Technologist or Health and Human Services. Plans studies to investigate human disease, preventive methods and treatments for disease at hospital located in Saipan, CNMI.

Send resume to:
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION, HR DEPT.
P.O. BOX 500409, Saipan, MP 96950

Two-day vet clinic benefits 47 pets

The Saipan Humane Society saw 47 dogs during two clinic days for vaccines, deworming, and flea/tick

Emory S. Land makes second port call on Saipan

By PETTY OFFICER 1ST CLASS VICTORIA KINNEY
USS EMORY S. LAND (AS-39)

The submarine tender USS *Emory S. Land* (AS 39) made a scheduled port visit to Saipan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands on May 2.

"We're grateful to the local community for welcoming our crew," said Capt. Brent Spillner, commanding officer of *Emory S. Land*. "Saipan is always a wonderful place to visit, and it's the perfect spot for us to exercise the expeditionary capabilities that we might be called upon to provide anywhere in the Indo-Pacific."

This is *Emory S. Land's* second port visit to Saipan since taking over as the lead maintenance activity from USS *Frank Cable* (AS 40) in 2021. Their last visit was in February 2022.

"We extend our warmest welcome to the captain and crew of USS *Emory S. Land* to Saipan. We appreciate their visit to the Commonwealth, and equally important, thank them for engaging in community service work while in Saipan," said Gov. Arnold I. Palacios. "We also wanted to recognize and express pride in GMC Kevin Barbo, from Saipan, who—as leading chief petty officer of the USS *Emory S. Land's* Gunnery Division—plays an important role in the Navy's mission of defending our freedom, keeping America safe, and ensuring the seas remain free and open. We are proud of him and all the crew and thank them for their service."

While in port, *Emory S. Land* is slated to participate in community outreach events and provide ship tours to students and civic leaders. The tender will also conduct small boat operations and rehearse its procedures to support submarines and surface ships in ports without established Navy facilities.

Guam is home to the U.S. Navy's only submarine tenders, *Emory S. Land* and *Frank Cable*, as well as several Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarines. The submarine tenders are tasked to provide expeditionary intermediate level maintenance and repairs, services, and logistics support to submarines. The submarines and tenders are maintained as part of the U.S. Navy's forward-deployed submarine force and are readily capable of meeting global operational requirements. They are manned by a unique hybrid crew of uniformed sailors and Military Sealift Command civil service mariners.

For more information about USS *Emory S. Land* (AS 39), visit <http://www.csp.navy.mil/emorysland/> or like <http://www.facebook.com/EmorySLand>. For more news from USS *Emory S. Land* (AS 39), visit <http://www.navy.mil/local/as39/>.

preventive last week.

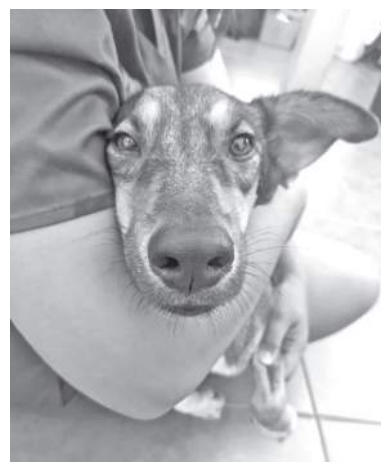
According to a news release Tuesday, SHS also offered virtual consultations regarding specific health concerns during the clinic.

"Vaccines are necessary to protect our pets from parvovirus, distemper, and other life-threatening conditions. Flea and tick preventive not only helps keep your pet comfortable, but also reduces their risk of illness through tick-borne disease and other parasites that cause sarcoptic mange," the SHS news release added.

The daily operations of Saipan Humane Society are managed by just two volunteers, but the organization said it is well-supported by

the Saipan Mayor's Office and Dog Control Program.

In addition to increasing access to veterinary services in the CNMI, SHS is also working with Saipan DCP to help increase adoptions out of the Mayor's Animal Shelter. Currently, SHS's clinic hours are limited as the organization works to develop efficient processes and partnerships that will ensure the sustainability of the organization. Starting mid-May, things will be ramping up as the organization welcomes two veterinarians for a monthlong spay/neuter campaign, along with consultations for sick animals and specialty surgeries.



SHS

Brooke, one of the shelter dogs in foster care, is seen getting heartworm tested during the clinic. She was positive for heartworm and Saipan Humane Society is working with veterinarians to determine the best treatment options.

If you signed up already on SHS spay/neuter waitlist, check your email as you should have received an appointment sign-up link for the spay/neuter clinic. If you have not received an email but are interested in signing up, go to www.saipanhumanesociety.org and click the link there. By clicking this link, you will be brought to a calendar where you can self-schedule your pet's spay/neuter appointment at a time that works for you.

If you have any questions, email info@saipanhumanesociety.org or send a WhatsApp message to (670) 838-7387. Because this organization is small and busy, they do not have time to answer phone calls. If you can leave a WhatsApp text message, they can reply at their earliest convenience. (PR)

MTEC, MVA wrap up school visits with Rota

The Marianas Tourism Education Council and Marianas Visitors Authority wrapped up their series of annual school presentations about tourism and the state tourism office with a visit to Rota on April 19, 2023.

MTEC board member Catherine Perry, MVA community projects specialist Jack Aranda, and MVA Rota acting grounds supervisor David Atalig visited Dr. Rita S. Inos Jr./Sr. High in the morning. As Rota has very limited visitor arrivals, the team invited students to discuss the reasons for the limited number of visitors and possible solutions, the potential of the military market in Guam, the unique experiences and attractions that they and their families could offer visitors, and students' vision for the future of their island community and economy.

"Having a program like MTEC explaining tourism in the Marianas and spreading awareness on why it is so important to keep our island clean is truly important, because these students are the future of our islands," said Atalig. "It was great seeing the students so interactive and interested in



Marianas Visitors Authority community projects specialist Jack Aranda addresses students at Dr. Rita S. Inos Jr./Sr. High School on April 19, 2023, and shares about the functions of the state tourism office.

MVA

what the speakers were saying. I feel really honored to have been a part of the presentations."

Atalig shared about upcoming events on Rota for May Tourism Month and the Beautify My Marianas program. The team also visited Sinapalo Elementary in the afternoon.

"MTEC, in partnership with the MVA, has concluded this year's Education Outreach Program," said MTEC board chair Vicky Benavente. "These past couple of years have been very challenging for the students, with the pandemic and

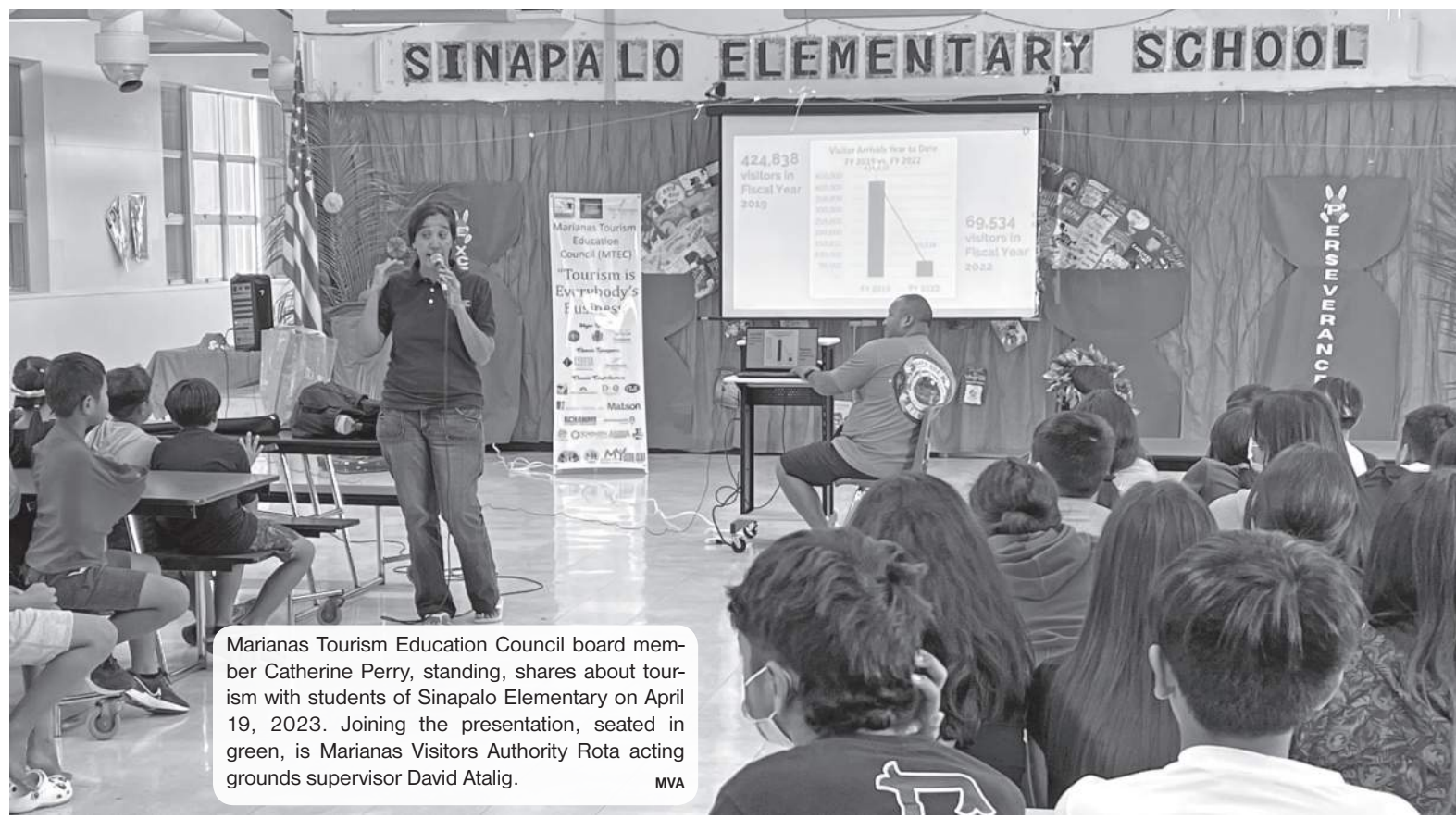
the resulting economic fallout. But at every school and at various age levels, we've seen the students' potential to be a positive force in the community and for the future of our tourism industry."

The MTEC presentation includes information on the number of visitor arrivals, source markets, travel motivations, the benefits of tourism, careers, and ideas on how students can engage with tourism. The MVA presentation covers the mandate of the office and the work of its divisions, especially marketing and

community projects.

"I'm pleased to see the Marianas Visitors Authority has continued to collaborate with MTEC on these school presentations through the years, which are a hands-on avenue to broaden students' awareness of the Marianas tourism economy, how it benefits them and their families, and how they can support it," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion, who returned to the helm of the MVA this week. "A sincere *dangkulu na si Yu'us ma'ase* and *ghilisow* (thank you) to the principals for allowing us this valuable time. The MVA has seen a steady increase in students' baseline understanding of tourism since we started this outreach with MTEC several years ago, which means graduating students are more likely to be informed of and involved in the industry."

Other MTEC board members are vice chair Glenn Policare (Kanoa Resort Saipan), secretary Martin Duenas (MVA), treasurer Yunzi Zhang (Northern Marianas College School of Business), Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero (Northern Marianas College), Larry Lee, Naomi Nishimura (CNMI Public School System), and Gordon Marciano (PDI). (MVA)



Marianas Tourism Education Council board member Catherine Perry, standing, shares about tourism with students of Sinapalo Elementary on April 19, 2023. Joining the presentation, seated in green, is Marianas Visitors Authority Rota acting grounds supervisor David Atalig.

MVA

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Supremely overdue: The top court in the US must have an ethics code

The same U.S. Supreme Court that's repeatedly ruled that the president of the United States is not above the law considers itself above a simple, enforceable code of ethical conduct. This is not right—which is why the bipartisan bill to require the high court to impose such a code upon itself should become law.

Last Tuesday, as questions continue to swirl about Justice Clarence Thomas' failure to disclose his financial entanglements, including multi-million-dollar gifts from a billionaire friend, Chief Justice John Roberts responded to Sen. Dick Durbin's request to testify before the Judiciary Committee with a "Statement on Ethics Principles and Practices" signed by all nine justices. The words are nice, but they don't add up to a binding set of rules to which all justices must abide.

All other federal judges, whether at the trial or appeals level, must follow such rules—which, among other things, require them to "avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety in all activities." If a judge breaches the code, he or she can be investigated and reprimanded. Not The Nine. The Nine keep their fingers on the scales of justice they purport to revere.

We believe in the separation of powers, an ingenious feature of the constitutional system James Madison, Alexander Hamilton and the rest designed. But Congress is not here meddling in the internal workings of the judiciary; it is simply requiring that the court, on its own, adopt a code and have an individual handle complaints about violations. The whole thing is a measly three pages long.

Confidence in the Supreme Court, whose conservative majority last summer overturned *Roe v. Wade* and eviscerated a century-old New York gun safety law, is lower than it's ever been; just 25% of those polled by Gallup say they have a great deal or quite a lot of confidence in the highest bench in the land.

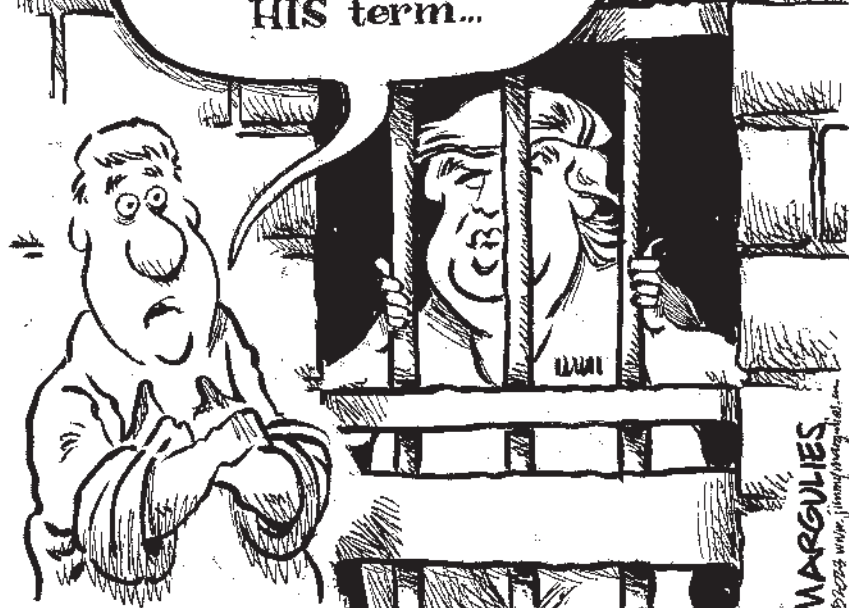
Without legitimacy, rulings will lose their force and the republic will drift ever further apart. Require a code under law. What will the justices do, sue Congress?

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Biden would
be 86 at the
end of his
term...



On the other
hand, Trump
would be 268
at the end of
HIS term...

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Will you need the latest COVID booster? It depends

As the Biden administration prepares for the federal COVID-19 public health emergency to end on May 11, the new normal is markedly better than the earlier phase of the pandemic in which we lost more than a million American lives. We've gone from the 2021 peak of an estimated 3,000 Americans dying daily from the infection to about 250 a day now. But this "normal" still includes more than 30,000 COVID-19 deaths since the beginning of 2023, and the virus remains a leading cause of fatality in the U.S. This is not acceptable.

We face confusing realities: The pandemic's acute phase is over, but COVID remains a significant cause of death. New variants always loom, one of the latest being XBB.1.16—nicknamed Arcturus by some on social media—which recently reached L.A. Any long-term approach to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 will require periodic boosters—yet as of March, fewer than 1 in 5 eligible Americans got the booster that was made available in September, suggesting that interest in the shots has dipped alongside the virus' toll.

The Food and Drug Administration recently amended its authorizations for Pfizer and Moderna's mRNA vaccines, prompting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to modify its COVID-19 vaccine recommendations. Wading through these changes offers a window into our next stage of confronting COVID: adapting as vaccine technology evolves, emphasizing protections for high-risk people and maintaining vaccination as a preventive measure.

The newest available mRNA vaccine is the bivalent shot, which contains two strains of the virus instead of the single strain in the original monovalent version. The FDA discontinued use of the monovalent vaccine because in the agency's assessment and analysis of independent data, the bivalent shot provides better protection than the monovalent vaccine.

As a result, the CDC now recommends that everyone get at least one dose of the bivalent vaccine whether or not they've already had one or more doses of the monovalent vaccine (which is no longer allowed in the U.S.). However, the agency currently says that among adults, only higher-risk people—specifically those age 65 or older and immunocompromised individuals—should be allowed to receive additional bivalent vaccine doses. For children younger than 6, multiple doses are still recommended, but the appropriate number varies by a child's age and vaccine history.

These nuanced recommendations make sense right now. They simplify the vaccine schedule for most people at a time when the U.S. has widespread population immunity, so focusing on high-priority groups over the general population is an efficient use of public health resources.

By SAAD B. OMER
Los Angeles Times

Saad B. Omer is the director of the Yale Institute for Global Health, a professor in medicine and public health and an adjunct professor of nursing at Yale University. He will start as the founding dean of the Peter O'Donnell School of Public Health at UT Southwestern in June. @SaadOmer3



People with weak immune systems require additional vaccine doses to achieve the same level of protection as others. Older individuals remain at much higher risk of death and hospitalization compared with younger ones, meaning that ensuring high vaccination rates for those age 65 or older will be essential to reduce deaths, hospitalizations and other dire outcomes such as long COVID. And it is reasonable to protect children under 6 years old with multiple vaccine doses rather than multiple exposures—which is the other way to shore up immunity, but comes with the risk of severe illness.

But the current moment isn't guaranteed to last. Group-level protection could diminish, especially as immunity wanes or if a new variant emerges that can better evade existing immunity. Infection rates can surge quickly, meaning public health recommendations—and their communication to the public—have to be nimble. Guidance to maintain high vaccination rates among health workers, for example, will mitigate the impact of a sudden increase in COVID-19 transmission on the health system.

And we should be prepared to keep adjusting to newer, better vaccines. The Biden administration recently announced it will accelerate development of the next generation of COVID vaccines and treatments under the \$5-billion-plus "Project Next Gen." That's a worthy aim.

The benefits of the bivalent vaccines continue to outweigh their risks in all groups, and they remain very useful in reducing severe disease and death. But they're far less effective in lowering overall infections from the Omicron family of viruses. They also require boosters to offer the most protection, and they're continuously at risk of being tripped up by new, more lethal or more transmissible variants. Substantial investment in vaccines that block infection and, ideally, that work irrespective of the variant is the only path to sustainable control of COVID-19.

We are living with this virus now. We have to rely on forward-looking, science-based vaccine policies to help us control its continuing impact.

A white cane and 12-ounce gloves. How I learned to box as a legally blind man

I walked into a boxing gym for the first time at 46 years old. Walked in with 20 pounds I’ve added on since COVID and kids. Walked in with little stamina, marginal coordination and bucketloads of fear. I’d halfway convinced myself before ever stepping through the doors that I probably couldn’t do this after all. Walked in with all that and a white cane tapping on the floor. Yeah. A legally blind man trying to learn how to box. There’s no way this will ever work out, I thought. But let’s try it anyway. I was born with optic nerve hypoplasia, which is essentially the underdevelopment of the optic nerve, and it means that I navigate the world with severe tunnel vision. Most fully sighted folks experience 180 degrees of peripheral vision, and I have about 25 degrees with both eyes combined. The area I can’t see isn’t fuzzy, it isn’t dark and it doesn’t shimmer with colors. Put your finger on the back of your head and describe what the vision back there is like. There’s nothing there, right? Apart from the 25 degrees of sight that I have, that’s what my periphery is like. What I quickly learned about boxing—from my very first session where I went over general footwork and the six punches that make up the basics—is that unlike in other sports, the mind is constantly engaged. I have tried running and weightlifting and found them deathly tedious. The body does the work while the mind is stuck in stasis. But when you’re looking at someone over your gloves, trying to hit them and not get hit in return, or even just remembering the order of the nine punch/defense combo your coach just assigned, the brain sings alongside the body. The number of times I’ve heard well-intentioned people ex-

claim something like, “That’s amazing! Do your other senses get heightened?” No. I’m still working from a profound deficit, a deficit that my coaches are teaching me to defensively shrink as little as possible. I stare at my opponent’s chest—the chest telegraphs the most information about what the arms and the legs are about to do. I offer up my shoulders as often as I can, and I try to keep my right hand pinned to my cheek as much as possible, so it’s only a matter of inches for me to lift my glove and block any incoming left hooks. Hooks are the toughest because of the way they loop in from outside my field of vision. When I spar with my coaches (and we’re talking very light sparring at this point), my bag of tools isn’t very deep yet. I’m still miles away from feeling relaxed or natural. The biggest challenge is staying patient with myself, and recognizing that every day I practice, every day I accept criticism and correction, every time I put wraps on my hands and try to learn, that’s a definable victory. One of my coaches tells me: “Power doesn’t win it, Keith.” We’re doing mitt work, and I keep frontloading, leaning too far forward in my punches, trying to add some imagined extra bit of oomph. But I’m anchoring that front foot, and it’s costing me balance and the ability, a second later, to move, to pivot. It’s basic stuff, but it’s a bad habit that keeps coming up. “Speed trumps power. You get your hand in their face as fast as you can,” my coach says, “then you get it back to your face. That’s it.” The nice thing about all this? It’s all stuff that newbies do. Reflexes, muscle memory, technique and skill sets—you build all of it

By **KEITH ROSSON**
Los Angeles Times



Keith Rosson's newest novel, *Fever House*, will be published by Random House in August. He boxes at St. Johns Boxing in Portland, Ore.

through practice and repetition. The true surprise came with the realization that I’ve been unilaterally treated with respect at this gym, from coaches and other boxers alike. My impairment—or rather, the fact that I’m trying to learn this sport with such an impairment—is met with about five seconds of polite admiration. Once that’s over, and we’ve figured out what accommodations need to be made for whatever drill or combo we’re doing next, I become just another newbie with bad footwork, a guy with a sometimes-decent cross who keeps dropping his elbow in that rear hook. Every class, every session, is an act of quiet inclusivity. There’s no grand plan with all this. I won’t be doing any exhibitions. I’m not set on sparring some of the lethal people that populate this gym. It’s a sport, it’s exercise and it works the mind and clears it simultaneously. The challenge of trying to hit someone while not getting hit remains vastly, wildly fun, but ask me again after I’ve eaten a few liver shots. The people I train with have consciously made room for me in a sport that I never thought would be accessible to me. I have so far to go, and I feel tremendously grateful that I moved through the fear that first day, walking into the gym with my gloves and my white cane.

Donald Trump’s empty, ugly suggestion that E. Jean Carroll wasn’t hot enough to rape

Donald Trump’s argument that he couldn’t have raped E. Jean Carroll because “she’s not my type” is meaningless. Not because he thought a photo of himself with Carroll was a picture of him with his ex-wife Marla Maples, though that did happen. Not because he’s a prolific liar, either, though his lifetime of practice has been thoroughly documented. (The Washington Post’s Fact Checker found that by the end of his four years in office, “Trump had accumulated 30,573 untruths during his presidency—averaging about 21 erroneous claims a day.”) It’s meaningless because even if it were true that he doesn’t go for thin blonde former beauty queens, rape isn’t about attraction. It’s not about desire, but domination. It’s not, “I like you,” but “I want to hurt you.” And Trump’s suggestion that, as Carroll’s lawyer put it, she was “too ugly to assault” is beyond ugly. Doesn’t that imply that he wouldn’t mind raping someone more worthy of his mistreatment? It’s telling that Trump seems to think being rapable is an honor he simply would not have bestowed on a woman who would have been 52 in the spring of 1996, when Carroll says Trump pulled her into a dressing room at Bergdorf Goodman, slammed her against a wall, yanked down her tights and shoved his fingers and then his penis inside her. Carroll will take the stand again on Monday in her civil suit against Trump. She’s doing that, she says, because he raped her then and is defaming her now. “Does anybody believe,” the former and perhaps future president posted, “that I would take a then almost 60 year old woman



Trump

that I didn’t know, from the front door of a very crowded department store, (with me being very well known, to put it mildly!), into a tiny dressing room, and Her?” What is his cutoff age for rape, I wonder? Trump has been accused of sexual misconduct by more than two dozen women. If these accounts are politically motivated, why were these women telling their friends about what he’d done to them years before he became a candidate, or for that matter, a Republican? He’s used the “not sexy enough to accost” defense before. After a New Yorker named Jessica Leeds said he groped and stuck his hand up her skirt on an airplane in the ‘80s, his answer was, “Yeah, I’m going to go after you. Believe me—she would not be my first choice. That I can tell you. You don’t know. That would not be my first choice.” That? First choice or not, we all heard from his own mouth that “when you’re a star” you grab first, ask never and keep on walking, hahaha. In keeping with tradition, both Trump and his battering ram of an attorney, Joe Tacopina, also questioned why Carroll didn’t scream or call the police. “He raped me whether I screamed or not,” she answered Tacopina, whose badgering was so blatant that the judge repeatedly called him out. Carroll didn’t cry out then, she said, because she didn’t want to make a scene. But she did get louder on the witness stand when she

By **MELINDA HENNEBERGER**
The Kansas City Star



answered Tacopina. Women often keep silent about an attack, she told him, because they fear being asked what they could have done to stop it. “They’re always asked, ‘Why didn’t you scream?’” Rape victims are far more likely to freeze than to fight or call for help, and I hope that juries are starting to understand that. Dr. Barbara Ziv, a forensic psychiatrist in Pennsylvania, testified last November at Harvey Weinstein’s Los Angeles rape trial that “even aggressive verbal shouting—screaming—is not as common as we would think. It’s more common than physical resistance, but a minority of people have physical resistance, even in the case of stranger rape.” Of course, it will be up to the jury to decide whether it’s more likely than not that Carroll’s account is what happened. But if she were lying, wouldn’t she claim to know exactly when this was? If she were inventing tales about how she was harmed, would she really risk going so far as to say that this violation so killed her desire that she never had sex again? If that weren’t true, how could she be sure that anyone who could prove otherwise wouldn’t? Carroll says she finally was able to knee Trump and get away. And all these years later, she is raising her voice, and hoping that we can hear her.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR






Karidat says thank you

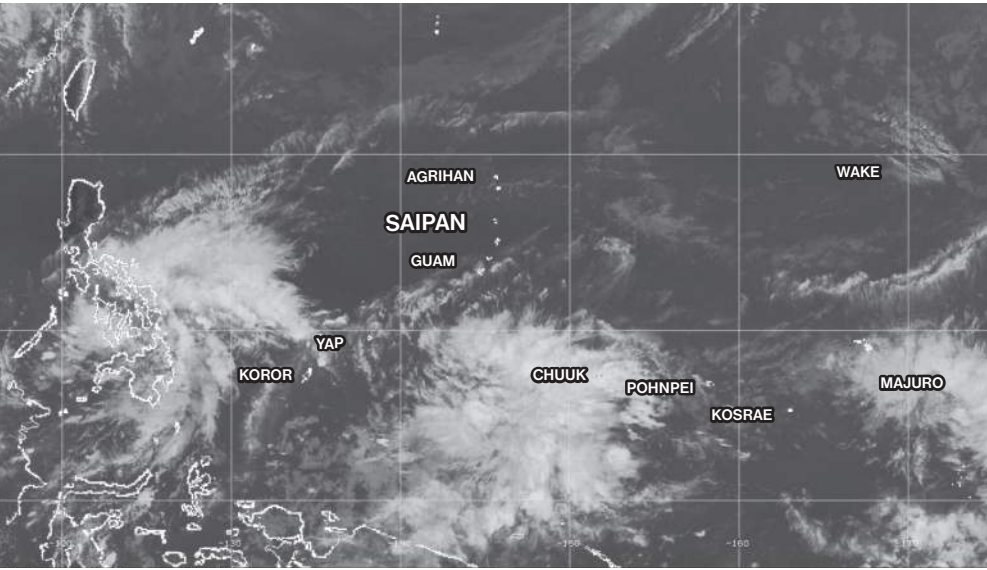
On May 5, 1980, a group of nine like-minded individuals sought to make our community a better place to work and live. Forty-three years later, that spirit still lives on through the programs and services envisioned so many years ago. On behalf of Bishop Ryan Jimenez, the Karidat Social Services board of directors would like to thank all those who donated to our 43rd anniversary fundraising drive and believing in our mission:

- National Office Supply
 - Elliott Systems
 - GENPRO International, Inc.
 - Chong’s Corp.
 - Marianas Insurance Co.
 - R&M Printers
 - In memory of Ramon Tydingco Fejeran
 - Rosa “Chailang” Palacios
 - RR Associates
 - Malua Peter
 - Bridge Capital
- Sen. Jude Hofschneider
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 - Rep. Ralph Yumul
 - Rep. Denita Yangetmai
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 - Fiesta Inc.
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 - PEP’S International LLC
 - Blue Sky Supermarket
 - 3K Corp.

■ Yaong Corp.
■ Tan Sui Lin Foundation
■ A special thanks to our anonymous donors
We could not have done this work without the commitment of our hardworking staff, board members, donors, and volunteers—past and present.
Karidat is proud and honored to celebrate major milestone: 43 years of service!
Lauri B. Ogumoro, LMSW, ACSW
Executive director, Karidat Social Services

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY	
									
Isolated showers. Mostly sunny		Scattered showers. Partly sunny		Partly sunny		Mostly sunny		Partly sunny	
84°	79°	83°	78°	86°	76°	86°	79°	86°	76°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 7:23 AM, WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

This morning`s Doppler radar loop and visible satellite imagery shows just a few, tiny showers crossing the region. Skies are currently mostly cloudy, but that`s due to some high-level thin cirrus clouds with plenty of "filtered" sunshine passing through them. The buoys shows seas running in the 6 to 7 foot range, with a decreasing trend over the past couple hours observed. The water temperature is 84 degrees.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	87° / 78°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°	
Yap	Scattered Thunderstorms	86° / 79°	
Chuuk	Scattered Thunderstorms	87° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	82° / 76°	
Kosrae	Scattered Thunderstorms	85° / 78°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	84° / 79°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:52 AM	6:35 PM
Friday	5:52 AM	6:35 PM
Saturday	5:51 AM	6:35 PM
Sunday	5:51 AM	6:35 PM
Monday	5:50 AM	6:36 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	4:37 AM	5:17 PM
Friday	-	5:15 AM	6:11 PM
Saturday	-	5:56 AM	7:08 PM
Sunday	-	6:43 AM	8:09 PM
Monday	-	7:36 AM	9:13 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Thunderstorms	68° / 64°	
Beijing	Light Rain	68° / 61°	
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	82° / 76°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	83° / 74°	
London	Cloudy	65° / 52°	
Los Angeles	Cloudy	64° / 52°	
Manila	Isolated Thunderstorms	94° / 81°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	62° / 48°	
Miami	Partly Cloudy	86° / 70°	
New York	Cloudy	54° / 47°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	74° / 59°	
Paris	Showers	75° / 55°	
Busan	Rain	66° / 62°	
Rome	Mostly Sunny	76° / 52°	
Salem	Sunny	72° / 46°	
San Francisco	Showers	60° / 50°	
Seoul	Rain	76° / 62°	
Tokyo	Sunny	77° / 61°	
Washington, DC	Showers	54° / 46°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
12:28 AM	Low Tide	0.80	
6:22 AM	High Tide	1.94	
1:05 PM	Low Tide	0.30	
7:28 PM	High Tide	1.86	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 30, 2023							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:45AM	Daily
SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
UA824	7:25AM	9:55AM	1, 3, 5	UA825	9:25PM	1:50AM+1	2, 4, 7
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily	UA184	10:25PM	4:15AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA193	6:55PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau	UA189	10:25PM	6:10AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:15PM	9:10PM	Daily	PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
				UA192	11:50PM	5:35AM+1	2, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/703	4:20AM	10:35PM	1, 4, 5, 7 via ICN	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via Guam
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau	UA184/174	11:50PM	8:45AM+1	2, 5 via Guam
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily	7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
OZ626	4:20AM	7:55AM	1, 4, 5, 7	TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	Daily
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily	OZ625	9:25PM	2:55AM+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily	7C3405	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.							
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022							
SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily	3101	9:30	10:00	Daily
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/				Sat/Sun
			Sat/Sun	3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily	3103	16:30	17:00	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				GUAM TO ROTA			
LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily	2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily	2111	17:30	17:45	Daily

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Business

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Java Joe's introduces new menu

More than a coffee place, Java Joe's in Dandan has again expanded their already eclectic menu with a slew of new food offerings.

Owner Manju Pandey said Java Joe's recently added pizza, butter chicken, curry, loco moco, and lamb burgers to their menu.

"We introduced these new items to give different options for our customers to choose from. We would like to add more very soon. There are days that business has been slow but adding new items like these help us give our customers a reason to go to Java Joe's," she said.

So far so good, as their regulars have seemed to have taken a liking to their butter chicken, loco moco, and the curry dishes the most.

The butter chicken is simply marinated baked chicken that's been cooked in a creamy tomato-onion gravy. It's usually served with jasmine rice or naan bread (butter or plain).



MARK RABAGO

Java Joe's is located beside EverClean Laundry and across the Commonwealth Utilities Corp./Joeten Dandan along Chalan Monsignor Guerrero in Dandan.



MARK RABAGO

Java Joe's staff greets customers with big smiles as they order.

The loco moco is made from either beef or lamb patty and is strategically placed on top of steaming white rice. It comes with sunny side up egg and smothered with rich brown mushroom sauce.

And honoring Pandey's native Nepal, Java Joe's curry dishes come in chicken, beef, lamb, fish, or shrimp varieties all cooked in tomato, onion, and other spices. Like the butter chicken, the curry is served with jasmine rice or butter or plain naan bread.

"All have received very good compliments from our customers and we gained new regular customers after learning that we offer these items," she said.

Knowing too well that everyone's tolerance for spicy dishes vary, all of Java Joe's dishes can be served spicy, not spicy, or mild.

So far, Pandey said Java Joe's has bitten the bullet and hasn't

changed their menu prices even as the cost of ingredients, fuel, and utilities have risen.

"For now we are just shouldering the rise of the cost of ingredients, fuel, and power. We would like our customers to go here regularly even if the economy is difficult. We don't want to raise our prices for now. When business gets better, hopefully we can adjust as well," she said.

Java Joe's is located beside EverClean Laundry and across the Commonwealth Utilities Corp./Joeten Dandan along Chalan Monsignor Guerrero in Dandan. They are open everyday from 7am to 9pm. Java Joe's also has a generator so they operate even during power outages.

For reservations or for more information, call Java Joe's at (670) 235-5098 or message them through their Facebook page.



Java Joe's loco moco.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Java Joe's shrimp curry with naan bread.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

300 arrested in global crackdown on dark web drug market

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)—Authorities in the U.S. and Europe arrested nearly 300 people, confiscated over \$53 million, and seized a dark web marketplace as part of an international crackdown on drug trafficking that officials say was the largest operation of its kind.

The operation targeting the "Monopoly Market" is the latest major takedown of sales platforms for drugs and other illicit goods on the so-called dark web, a part of the internet hosted within an encrypted network and accessible only through specialized anonymity-providing tools.

Most of the arrests were

made in the U.S., which is in the grips of an overdose crisis. Synthetic opioids, mostly fentanyl, kill more Americans every year than died in the Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan wars combined.

"Our message to criminals on the dark web is this: You can try to hide in the furthest reaches of the internet, but the Justice Department will find you and hold you accountable for your crimes," said U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland. The number of arrests and money seized was the highest for any international Justice Department-led drug trafficking operation, he said.

One defendant in California led an organization

that bought fentanyl in bulk, pressed it into pills with methamphetamine and sold millions of pills to thousands of people on the dark web, he said.

Investigators also got leads from local police investigating overdose deaths, including a 19-year-old man in Colorado who loved learning languages and building his own computers, said FBI Deputy Director Paul Abbate.

"But some of the packages his family thought were full of computer parts actually contain drugs he had purchased off the dark net," he said. "Because of those drugs, that promising young man sadly died of an overdose last year."

Former CEOs of failed banks to testify before Senate panel

WASHINGTON (AP)—The former top executives of two failed banks will testify before Congress this month as lawmakers dig into what caused a series of collapses at mid-sized financial institutions.

The Senate Banking Committee indicated Tuesday that it will hold a hearing May 16 with Silicon Valley Bank's former CEO, Gregory Becker, as well as Signature Bank's former chairman and co-founder, Scott Shay, and its former president, Eric Howell.

The committee, which is chaired by Sen. Sherrod Brown, an Ohio Democrat, will also hold two other hearings this month on the collapse of the banks. Several industry experts will testify at a hearing on Thursday. Then on May 18, Michael Barr,

the Federal Reserve's chief regulator, and Martin Gruenberg, chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., will testify.

The Fed board was the primary regulator for Silicon Valley Bank in California, while the FDIC was the primary federal regulator for Signature Bank in New York.

Barr issued a report last month that blamed Silicon Valley Bank's collapse on poor management, watered-down regulations and lax oversight by Fed staffers. It called for the industry to do a better job policing on multiple fronts to prevent future bank failures.

A separate report from the FDIC said the failure of Signature Bank was likely fallout from the collapse of

Silicon Valley Bank, but also found regulatory deficiencies at FDIC, notably insufficient staffing to adequately supervise the bank.

Senators have directed plenty of ire at the banking industry, regulators and a roll-back of financial stress tests in 2018. But between Democrats and Republicans in a closely divided Congress, there is little agreement on whether any legislation is needed.

Brown, alongside the Senate Banking Committee's top Republican, Sen. Tim Scott, sent a letter in March to executives at Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank telling them that they would be expected to testify and warning "you must answer for the bank's downfall."

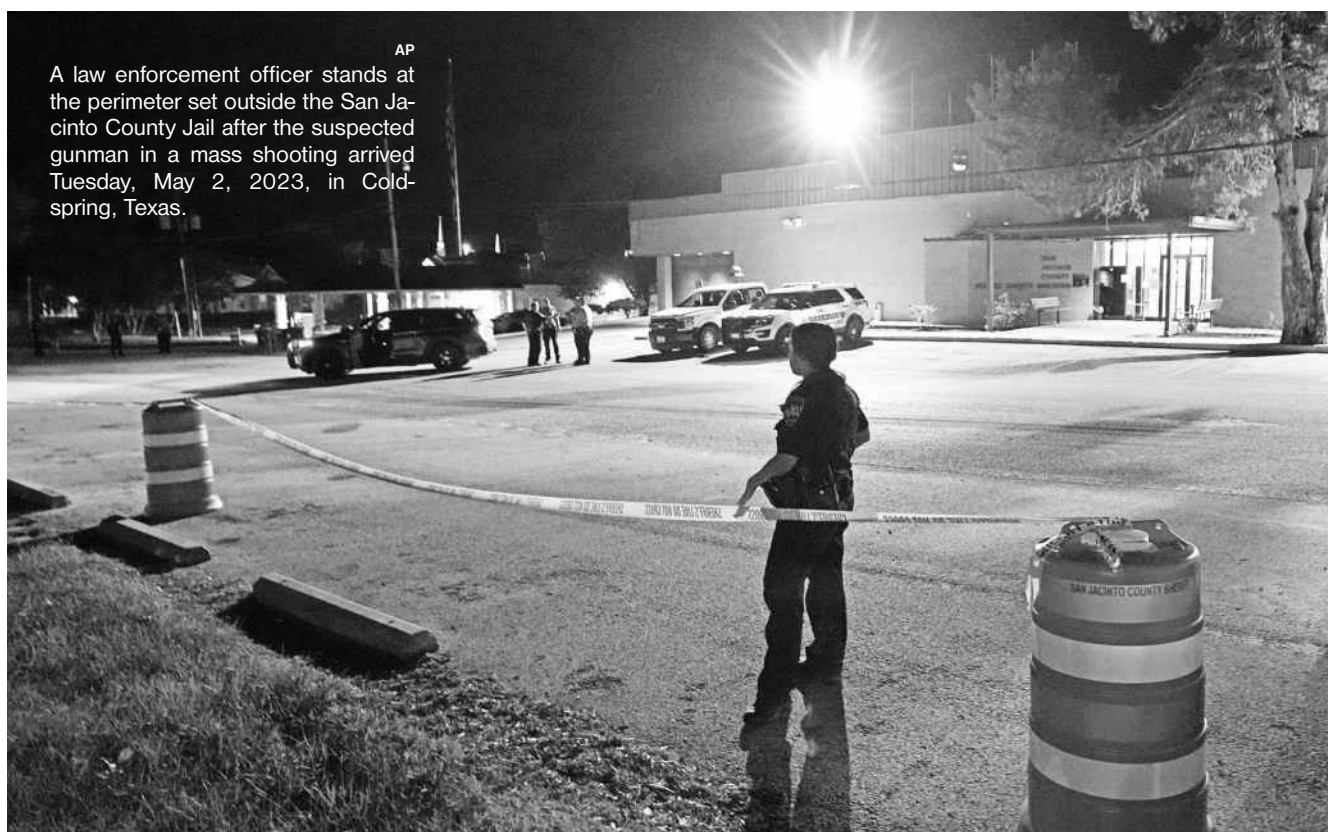
Nation

Sheriff: Suspected Texas gunman caught hiding under laundry

CLEVELAND, Texas (AP)—A four-day manhunt in Texas for a gunman accused of killing five neighbors ended Tuesday not far from the site of the shooting when authorities, acting on a tip, said they found the suspect hiding underneath a pile of laundry in the closet of a house.

Francisco Oropeza, 38, was captured without incident near Houston and about 20 miles (32 kilometers) from his home in the rural town of Cleveland, where authorities say he went next door and shot his neighbors with an AR-style rifle shortly before midnight Friday after some of them had asked him to go farther away if he was going to fire rounds in his yard so late. The gunfire was keeping a baby awake, they told him.

Oropeza will be charged with five counts of murder, San Jacinto County Sheriff Greg Capers said. Bond was



A law enforcement officer stands at the perimeter set outside the San Jacinto County Jail after the suspected gunman in a mass shooting arrived Tuesday, May 2, 2023, in Cold-spring, Texas.

the person who called in the tip—one of more than 200 tips he says investigators received. Authorities did not say who owned the house, whether Oropeza knew them or if anyone else was inside when he was found.

They also would not say whether friends or family had helped Oropeza evade capture, or where he had been since fleeing the scene in Cleveland, which authorities previously said was likely on foot.

Hagan said the three agencies that went in to arrest Oropeza were the U.S. Marshals, Texas Department of Public Safety and US Border Patrol's BORTAC team.

Drones and scent-tracking dogs had been used during the widening manhunt, which included combing a heavily wooded forest a few miles from the scene. Republican Gov. Greg Abbott offered a \$50,000 reward as the search dragged late into the weekend, while others offered an additional \$30,000 in reward money.

Capers said that prior to Friday's shooting deputies had been called to the suspect's house at least one other time previously over shooting rounds in his yard.

US, Mexico agree on tighter immigration policies at border

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. and Mexican officials have agreed on new immigration policies meant to deter illegal border crossings while also opening up other pathways ahead of an expected increase in migrants following the end of pandemic restrictions next week.

Homeland Security adviser Liz Sherwood-Randall spent Tuesday meeting with Mexico President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador and other top officials, emerging with a five-point plan, according to statements from both nations.

Under the agreement, Mexico will continue to accept migrants from Venezuela, Haiti, Cuba and Nicaragua who are turned away at the border, and up to 100,000 individuals from Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador who have family in the U.S. will be eligible to live and work there.

Despite sharing a 1,951-mile border with the U.S., Mexico had been notably absent from the rollout last week of a fresh set of efforts, including the creation of hubs outside the United States where migrants could go to apply to legally settle in the U.S., Spain or Canada. The first centers will open in Guatemala and Colombia.

The COVID-19 restrictions have allowed U.S. officials to turn away tens of thousands of migrants crossing the southern border, but those restrictions will lift May 11, and border of-

ficials are bracing for a surge. Even with the restrictions, the administration has seen record numbers of people crossing the border, and President Joe Biden has responded by cracking down on those who cross illegally and by creating new avenues meant as alternatives to a dangerous and often deadly journey.

Mexico's support is critical to any push by the U.S. to clamp down at the southern border, particularly as migrants from nations from as far away as Haiti are making the trek on foot up through Mexico, and are not easily returned back to their home countries.

With Mexico now behind the U.S., plus an announcement Tuesday that 1,500 active-duty U.S. troops are deploying south for administrative support, and other crackdown measures in place, border officials believe they may be able to manage overcrowding and other possible issues that might arise once the COVID-19 restrictions end.

Biden, who announced his Democratic reelection campaign a week ago, is trying to signal his administration is making a serious effort to tamp down the number of illegal crossings, which has been a potent source of Republican attacks. He also is trying to send a message to potential border crossers not to attempt the journey.

set at \$5 million.

"They can rest easy now, because he is behind bars," Capers said of the families of the victims. "He will live out his life behind bars for killing those five."

The arrest happened near Conroe, ending what had become a widening dragnet that had grown to more than 250 people from multiple

jurisdictions and had seen \$80,000 in reward money offered. As recently as Tuesday morning, the FBI said that Oropeza "could be anywhere," underlining how investigators for days struggled to get a sense of his whereabouts and candidly acknowledged they had no leads.

The tip that finally ended the chase came at 5:15 p.m.,

and a little more than an hour later, Oropeza was in custody, said FBI Assistant Special Agent in Charge Jimmy Paul. The alleged shooter is a Mexican national who has been deported four times between 2009 and 2016, according to U.S. immigration officials.

Connor Hagan, an FBI spokesman, said they would not disclose the identity of

Woman testifies that she too was sexually attacked by Trump

NEW YORK (AP)—A woman testified Tuesday that Donald Trump molested her with what seemed like "40 zillion hands" on an airline flight in the late 1970s — years before writer E. Jean Carroll says the former president sexually assaulted her at a Manhattan department store.

Meanwhile, Trump's lawyer said the former president has decided against testifying, answering the biggest outstanding question about the closely watched case. Trump has given sworn deposition testimony, and excerpts could be played for the jury.

Jessica Leeds, 81, of Asheville, North Carolina, told jurors at a civil trial arising from Carroll's lawsuit that Trump grabbed her chest and ran his hand up her skirt as they sat side by side in first class on a New York City-bound jet. After a few seconds, she said, she wriggled free of Trump, told him "I don't need this" and stormed to the back of the plane.

"There was no conversation. It was like out of the blue. It was like a tussle," Leeds testified. "He was trying to kiss me, trying to pull

me towards him. He was grabbing my breasts. It was like he had 40 zillion hands. It was like a tussling match between the two of us."

Carroll's lawyers called Leeds to the witness stand in an attempt to show that Trump has a history of assaulting women and that Carroll's claims were part of a pattern, not a one-off incident. Another woman is expected to testify at the trial that she too was victimized by Trump.

Trump, a Republican, has repeatedly denied the women's claims. He contends the allegations are politically motivated attempts to smear his reputation and deny him the White House. He has said Carroll lied to sell books and that she's not his "type."

Trump used similar language in denying Leeds' allegations, telling supporters at a 2016 rally, "Believe me, she would not be my first choice."

Leeds first went public with her account of the alleged airplane assault in the final weeks of Trump's 2016 campaign, telling jurors that she decided to do so because she was "furious" about Trump's claim at a debate

that he had never touched women against their will.

Carroll, a former magazine advice columnist, publicly aired her allegations against Trump in 2019, when she published a memoir. She testified over three days ending Monday that Trump raped her in the dressing room of Bergdorf Goodman, a luxury department store.

Lisa Birnbach, a longtime friend of Carroll, testified that an emotional and hyperventilating Carroll telephoned her minutes after her encounter with Trump to report what occurred. She said she told Carroll that Carroll had been raped and urged her to go to the police, but Carroll refused, leading them to argue before Birnbach agreed never to speak of it again.

Leeds said she was in her late 30s, working in sales and sitting in coach aboard a Braniff Airways flight from Dallas or Atlanta to New York's LaGuardia Airport, likely in 1979, when a flight attendant invited her to sit in the only empty aisle seat in the first-class cabin, next to Trump.

Trump introduced himself,

Leeds said, but she didn't know who he was at the time. Working then as a real estate developer, Trump had not yet achieved the heights of his fame and was still a few years from opening Trump Tower in Manhattan.

Leeds said she sat with Trump for several hours and ate a nice, first-class meal, but that their conversation was otherwise forgettable. Then, she said, "all of a sudden Trump decided to kiss me and grope me."

Leeds said she fought back as Trump seemed to get more aggressive, pressing his weight into her, jostling her seat and pinning her in it. No passengers intervened, and no employees from the now-defunct airline came to her rescue, she said.

"It was when he started putting his hand up my skirt that gave me strength. I managed to wriggle out of my seat and storm back to my seat in coach. I don't think there was a word or a sound made by either one of us," Leeds recalled. She said the encounter, "seemed like forever, but it probably was just a few seconds."

Asia

Unclear who would aid Taiwan in a war

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Taiwan intends to fight for itself in any armed conflict with China and is unclear as to what countries might stand beside it, the self-governing island's foreign minister said.

China claims Taiwan as its own territory, to be brought under its control by force if necessary, and concerns are rising about a possible armed conflict.

In an interview last Friday with Sky News Australia, Joseph Wu said Taiwan, with a population of 23 million compared to China's 1.4 billion, has to defend itself and is not asking other countries to fight for it.

However, asked who might fight alongside Taiwan in the event of a war with China, Wu answered, "This is a very good question."

"A lot of people are debating strategic ambiguity or strategic clarity, but to us, we know our own responsibility," Wu told the news channel from Taipei.

"Taiwan has to defend itself, the people have to defend Taiwan, this country, and we are determined to defend ourselves and we are not asking other countries to fight for Taiwan," Wu added.

President Joe Biden has re-

peatedly said American forces would help defend Taiwan, although U.S. official policy remains ambiguous over whether forces would be dispatched.

In comments Tuesday evening, American Ambassador to China Nicholas Burns said Washington has been consistent in its approach toward Taiwan and insists that "any resolution of the (cross-Taiwan Strait) differences has to be peaceful."

"We hope that the government here in China will commit itself to a peaceful resolution of the dispute," Burns said in an online discussion with the Washington-based Stimson Center think tank.

The U.S. "has the obligation as well as the interest to make sure that we can provide defensive arms to Taiwan so that the Taiwan authorities can have a proper defense and we can help them build up a deterrence," he said.

"If Taiwan has a sufficient deterrence in place, and if other countries around the world are supporting a peaceful resolution, one would hope that that would lead the Chinese to understand the consequences of the use of force in the Taiwan Strait," Burns said.

Australian Defense Minister Richard Marles said in March

that his country had made no promise to support the United States in any future conflict over Taiwan as part of an agreement to obtain American nuclear-powered submarines.

Biden and the leaders of Australia and the United Kingdom have announced that Australia will purchase nuclear-powered attack submarines from the U.S. to modernize its fleet, amid growing concern about China's influence in the Indo-Pacific.

Australian critics of the deal argue that the United States would not hand over as many as five of its Virginia-class submarines without assurances that they would be made available in the event of a conflict with China over Taiwan.

Asked if Taiwan was destined for war, Wu replied, "I certainly hope not."

"The reason is very clear: War means devastation, not just for the one who got attacked but possibly also for other countries as well," Wu said.

"And therefore, at this moment, even though we see that the tension has been rising and the conflict seems to be more likely and peace is less likely to maintain, but we need to do everything to prevent war from happening," he said.

Joe Biden on the sidelines.

But later Tuesday, Japan's Foreign Ministry said it strongly protested to South Korea's embassy in Tokyo over a trip by South Korean opposition lawmakers to a disputed island called Takeshima in Japan and Dokdo in South Korea. Seoul controls the island, which continues to strain ties between the nations, including when then-South Korean President Lee Myung-bak visited it in 2012.

The ministry said the visit by the opposition lawmakers to the island was "absolutely unacceptable and extremely regrettable."

Washington has been stepping up cooperation with its key Asian allies.

Yoon was in Washington last week and won stronger U.S. commitment on extended nuclear deterrence, including improved information sharing and nuclear submarine visits to South Korea. Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. was at the White House on Monday and Biden reiterated U.S. commitment to the Philippines' security and noted the "deep friendship" of the two nations.

Kishida plans to visit Yoon in South Korea before G-7

TOKYO (AP)—Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said Tuesday he is arranging a trip to South Korea for talks with President Yoon Suk Yeol in return for his March visit to Tokyo, aiming to further strengthen their ties before the upcoming summit of the Group of Seven industrialized nations.

Tokyo and Seoul have been working to repair relations that were strained over wartime history disputes as they deepen three-way security cooperation with Washington in response to growing regional threats from North Korea and China.

Speaking to reporters Tuesday in Ghana as part of his trip to Africa and Singapore, Kishida said he hopes to visit May 7-8 and exchange views with Yoon on ways to speed up the strengthening of bilateral ties and discuss regional and global issues.

"If my South Korea visit is achieved ahead of the G-7 summit, I expect it will be a great opportunity to give impetus to our 'shuttle diplomacy' and have a heart-to-heart exchange of our views on accelerating Japan-South Korea

ties and drastically changing the global situation," said Kishida, who is hosting the May 19-21 G-7 summit in Hiroshima.

Later Tuesday, both governments confirmed Kishida's trip and their talks in Seoul.

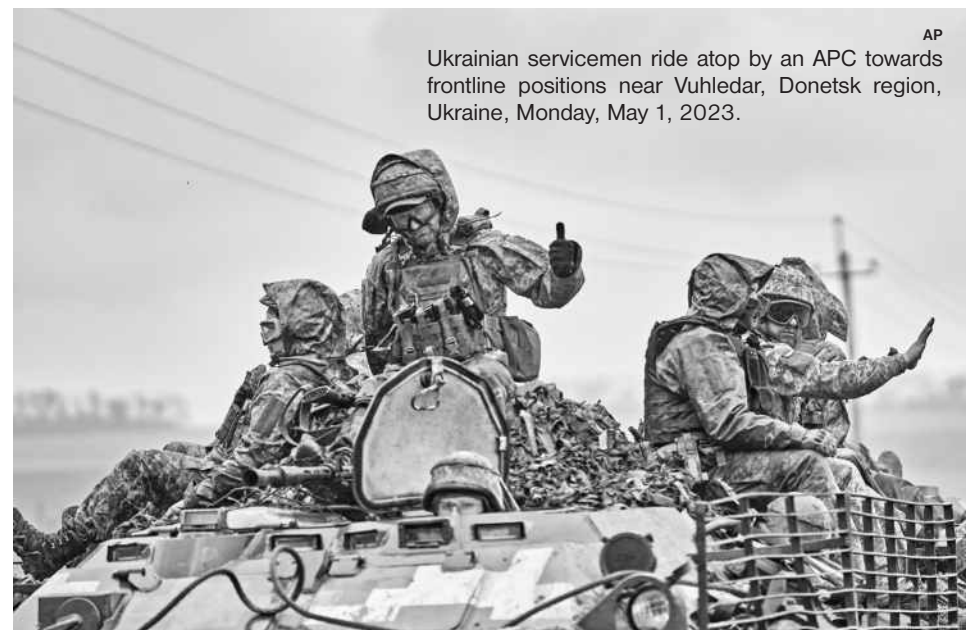
Yoon's office said Kishida will make a "working visit" to South Korea with his wife, Yuko Kishida, following the president's invitation during his Tokyo visit in March, marking a fresh start in their diplomacy. Kishida's office said talks between the leaders were scheduled for Sunday.

Kishida will be the first Japanese leader to visit South Korea since former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe attended the Pyeongchang Olympics in February 2018. The two leaders are expected to focus on cooperation and responses to North Korea's nuclear and missile development.

Japan and South Korea want to ensure their relationship is on track for a considerable recovery ahead of the G-7 summit, where Yoon is invited as one of eight outreach nations. The two leaders are also expected to hold a trilateral meeting with U.S. President

World

Officials: US to send Ukraine \$300 million in military aid



Ukrainian servicemen ride atop by an APC towards frontline positions near Vuhledar, Donetsk region, Ukraine, Monday, May 1, 2023.

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. is sending Ukraine about \$300 million in additional military aid, including an enormous amount of artillery rounds, howitzers, air-to-ground rockets and ammunition as the launch of a spring offensive against Russian forces approaches, U.S. officials said Tuesday.

The new package includes Hydra-70 rockets, which are unguided rockets that are fired from aircraft. It also includes an undisclosed number of rockets for the High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems, or HIMARS, mortars, howitzer rounds, missiles and Carl Gustaf anti-tank rifles. The weapons will all be pulled from Pentagon

stocks, so they can go quickly to the front lines. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because the aid has not yet been formally announced.

The latest shipment comes as Ukrainian officials say they are readying a counter-offensive — with Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksiy Reznikov declaring they are in the "home stretch, when we can say: 'Yes everything is ready.'" Ukrainian officials have said they are stockpiling ammunition to stow it along potentially long supply lines.

Reznikov said Monday that the key things for the assault's success would be "the availability of weap-

ons; prepared, trained people; our defenders and defenders who know their plan at their level, as well as providing this offensive with all the necessary things—shells, ammunition, fuel, protection, etc."

The U.S. in recent months has declined to say exactly how much materiel will be sent to Ukraine, but the latest package resembles other previous deliveries. Officials said there will also be trucks, trailers, spare parts, and other maintenance assistance.

This is the 37th package of Pentagon stocks to go to Ukraine since the war began in February 2022, and it brings the total U.S. military aid to about \$36 billion.

UN chief urges all nations to stop targeting media and truth

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The United Nations chief warned on the eve of World Press Freedom Day that the media is under attack in every corner of the world and urged all nations to stop the targeting of truth and those who report it.

Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called the 50% increase in the killing of media workers in 2022 "unbelievable," stressing that freedom of the press "is the foundation of democracy and justice" and it is under threat.

At least 67 media workers were killed in 2022. In addition, digital platforms and social media have made it easier for extremists to push false narratives and harass journalists.

"Truth is threatened by disinformation and hate speech seeking to blur the lines between fact and fiction, between science and

conspiracy," Guterres said in a video message for the U.N. commemoration of 30th anniversary of World Press Freedom Day. It was first proclaimed by the U.N. General Assembly in December 1993 and authorized to be held every May 3.

Guterres said the collapse of the media industry, which has led to closures of local news outlets and consolidation of media "into the hands of the few," is threatening freedom of expression.

So are threatening new laws passed by governments worldwide, such as Russia's 2022 law that anyone publishing information about its military that Moscow deems to be false could face up to 15 years in prison.

Russia detained Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich in late March, accusing him of spying. Journal publisher Almar Latour

vehemently denied the accusation at Tuesday's commemoration.

He said the Journal is "tremendously grateful" that President Joe Biden is personally working to secure Gershkovich's release. He added that his Russian lawyers have said, "Evan is thankful and reading every letter that he's getting at the moment."

Former journalist and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Samantha Power, who now heads the U.S. Agency for International Development, accused Russian President Vladimir Putin of not only wrongfully arresting Gershkovich but of targeting journalists elsewhere, including Ukraine, "where his forces have shelled broadcasting towers, seized editorial offices, and killed nine journalists" since the invasion on Feb. 24, 2022.

Environment

EXTREME WEATHER is nearly universal experience: AP-NORC poll



John Riendeau looks over damage to his rented bungalow on the intracoastal waterway, Sunday, April 30, 2023 in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. AP

WASHINGTON (AP)—An overwhelming majority of people in the United States say they have recently experienced an extreme weather event, a new poll shows, and most of them attribute that to climate change.

But even as many across the country mark Earth Day on Saturday, the poll shows relatively few say they feel motivated when they talk about the issue.

The findings from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research poll echo growing evidence that many individuals question their own role in combating climate change. Still, the

poll suggests people are paying attention.

About half of U.S. adults say they have grown more concerned about the changing climate in the past year, and a growing number say they are talking about it.

Adriana Moreno said she feels like she's been talking about climate change for years, but it's only recently that the 22-year-old high school teacher has noticed her older family members bringing up the issue more and more — “almost every time I see them,” said Moreno, a Democrat in New York.

Her family on the East Coast talks about how the sea-

sons have changed while her family in El Salvador talks about how poorly some crops on their farm are faring. After years of hearing about Moreno's own interest in the issue, her parents have themselves become more interested.

It's not that they didn't believe in climate change before, Moreno said, but it was “out of sight, out of mind.”

Overall, about 8 in 10 U.S. adults say that in the past five years they have personally felt the effects of extreme weather, such as extreme heat or drought, according to the poll. Most of them — 54% of the public overall — say what they experienced was at least partly

a result of climate change. They're not wrong, said the head of the federal agency overseeing weather and climate issues.

“It is a reality that regardless of where you are in the country, where you call home, you've likely experienced a high impact weather event firsthand,” National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration chief Rick Spinrad said at a meteorological conference this year, noting that the United States has the most weather disasters that cost \$1 billion of any nation in the world.

NOAA uses weather di-

sasters that cost \$1 billion as a measure of climate change and how it affects people. Last year there were 18 of those events, costing more than \$165 billion in total and killing 474 people. That included Hurricane Ian and an ongoing drought in the West.

These types of weather events hit the nation on average once every 82 days in the 1980s, but are now smacking the country at a rate of slightly more than once every two weeks, Spinrad said.

“With a changing climate, buckle up,” Spinrad warned. “More extreme

events are expected.”

The poll shows about three-quarters of U.S. adults say recent extreme weather events have had at least some influence on their beliefs about climate change.

After 2 1/2 years living in Agoura Hills, California, Rick Hoeft has noticed extreme weather events that make him concerned about climate change now more than ever before. He hadn't been face to face with the same weather whiplash when he lived for decades in Hawaii and Michigan, where he's moving back to this month.

'Asia must quit coal faster to stem worst climate woes'

BENGALURU, India (AP)—Asia must rapidly cut fossil fuel subsidies and plow more money into a clean energy transition to avoid catastrophic climate change that puts its own development at risk, according to a new report Thursday from the Asian Development Bank.

The region's economic development is being fueled in a carbon-intensive way that is well above the world average, said David Raitzer, an ADB economist and one of the authors of the report. He urged quick action on an energy transition for greater benefits and lower costs.

“Ambitious action on climate change with well-designed policies can have a massive payoff,” Raitzer said.

Several countries are developing new coal-fired power plants in Asia, which accounts for 94% of the global pipeline of coal-fired power plants under construction, planned, or announced, according to the report.

Even as China, India and Indonesia accounted for a third of all emissions of planet-warming gases in 2019, six of the top 10 countries most affected by extreme weather in the first two decades of this century were in Asia, ac-

cording to earlier studies. It's estimated that up to \$1.5 trillion in losses and damage to property were recorded in the region during that period, including unprecedented flooding in Pakistan that affected 33 million people last year.

The report estimated that 346,000 lives would be saved annually by 2030 if developing countries in Asia meet their goals for shifting to clean energy, leading to reduced air pollution. And it projected social and economic benefits from the shift equal to five times the cost of climate change impacts.

By **SETH BORENSTEIN**
AP SCIENCE WRITER

Earth in hot water? Worries over sudden ocean warming spike

The world's oceans have suddenly spiked much hotter and well above record levels in the last few weeks, with scientists trying to figure out what it means and whether it forecasts a surge in atmospheric warming.

Some researchers think the jump in sea surface temperatures stems from a brewing and possibly strong natural El Nino warming weather condition plus a rebound from three years of a cooling La Nina, all on top of steady global warming that is heating deeper water below. If that's the case, they said, record-breaking ocean temperatures this month

could be the first in many heat records to shatter.

From early March to this week, the global average ocean sea surface temperature jumped nearly two-tenths of a degree Celsius (0.36 degree Fahrenheit), according to the University of Maine's Climate Reanalyzer, which climate scientists use and trust. That may sound small, but for the average of the world's oceans —which is 71% of Earth's area —to rise so much in that short a time, “that's huge,” said University of Colorado climate scientist Kris Karnauskas. “That's an incredible departure from what was already a warm state to begin with.”

Climate scientists have

been talking about the warming on social media and amongst themselves. Some, like University of Pennsylvania's Michael Mann, quickly dismiss concerns by saying it is merely a growing El Nino on top of a steady human-caused warming increase.

It has warmed especially off the coast of Peru and Ecuador, where before the 1980s most El Ninos began. El Nino is the natural warming of parts of the equatorial Pacific that changes weather worldwide and spikes global temperatures. Until last month, the world has been in the flip side, a cooling called La Nina, that has been unusually strong and long, lasting three years and causing extreme weather.

Life & Style

‘Some Like It Hot’ leads Tony Award nominations with 13 nods



AP
This image released by Polk & Co. shows the cast during a performance of “Some Like It Hot.”

NEW YORK (AP)—“Some Like It Hot,” a Broadway musical adaptation of the cross-dressing movie comedy that starred Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon, waltzed away Tuesday with a leading 13 Tony Award nominations, putting the spotlight on a show that is a sweet, full-hearted embrace of trans rights.

With songs by Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman and starring Christian Borle and J. Harrison Ghee, who all got nominations, the show follows two musician friends who disguise themselves as women and join an all-girl band to flee Chicago after witnessing a mob hit. Like the

movie, there are men in dresses trying to pass as women. But this time, the dress awakens something in Ghee’s character, akin to a transformation from a caterpillar to a butterfly.

“The only thing we wanted to do was to be honest and we wanted to treat these characters with dignity,” said Matthew López, who wrote the Tony-nominated book with Amber Ruffin and has a Tony already for the play “The Inheritance.” “Sometimes the best way to treat a character with dignity is to let them be flawed and scared and funny and brave and human. So one of the things that was really, really important to

us is just to create human-scaled characters going through some extraordinary experiences.”

The musical comes at a time when trans rights are under attack and its message of self-acceptance and respect for all was echoed across Broadway, from a revival of “Parade” to a Black actor-led “Death of a Salesman” to the new play “Ain’t No Mo” and new musical “Kimberly Akimbo.”

“I think the pandemic put a lot of things in perspective, both in terms of improvements we needed to make in the community and also just the way that everybody’s feeling about the world and about being a hu-

man,” said Ben Platt, nominated for “Parade.” “The art people are making has a real urgency and a real purpose.”

Three shows tied with nine nominations each: “& Juliet,” which reimagines “Romeo and Juliet” and adds some of the biggest pop hits of the past few decades, “New York, New York,” which combined two generations of Broadway royalty in John Kander and Lin-Manuel Miranda, and “Shucked,” a surprise lightweight musical comedy studded with corn puns.

Betsy Wolfe, in her eighth Broadway show, earned her first nomination in “& Juliet,” playing Anne Hathaway, Shake-

peare’s wife. The actor had just dropped her daughter, almost 3, off at ballet class on Tuesday morning. “I hope she addresses me properly now when I see her,” she joked.

In the musical, playwright David West Read took an original story using “Romeo

and Juliet” as a launch pad and mixed in hits by Swedish super-producer Max Martin, including Britney Spears’ “Oops! ... I Did It Again,” Katy Perry’s “Roar” and Bon Jovi’s “It’s My Life.” The musical imagines a happier ending for Juliet after a journey of self-discovery.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Kevin Costner and wife of nearly 19 years begin divorce

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kevin Costner and his wife of nearly 19 years, Christine Baumgartner, are divorcing, a representative for the actor said Tuesday. “It is with great sadness that circumstances beyond his control have transpired which have resulted in Mr. Costner having to participate in a dissolution of marriage,” Costner’s publicist Arnold Robinson said in a statement. Costner and Baumgartner, a model and handbag designer, began dating in 1998 before getting married at his Colorado ranch in 2004. They have two sons, ages 14 and 15, and a 12-year-old daughter together. It was the second marriage for Costner, 68, the Oscar and Emmy winning star of TV’s “Yellowstone” and films including “Dances With Wolves,” “The Bodyguard” and “Bull Durham.” Costner also has four adult children from previous relationships.

U.S. hands Cyprus ancient artifacts, some 4,000 years old

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP)—

The United States has returned some 80 ancient artifacts, including coins and limestone sculptures, to Cyprus, the Mediterranean island nation’s Department of Antiquities said Tuesday. The antiquities were recovered after U.S. authorities seized them or individual owners decided to hand them back after discovering their true provenance, Cyprus Department of Antiquities Director Marina Solomidou Ieronymidou said. They include clay and glass vessels and limestone sculptures, some dating to 2,000 B.C., as well as an 18th century painting that was believed to have adorned a now-derelict church in the breakaway Turkish Cypriot north of the ethnically divided nation. Ieronymidou told The Associated Press that the two coins, one silver and the other gold, were particularly significant because they belonged to the time of the Cypriot kingdoms dating as far back as the 7th century B.C. The artifacts were all repatriated Apr. 26 and are currently held in a museum in the capital of Cyprus, Nicosia.

Couple thinks son’s wife is swiping medication

DEAR ABBY: Our daughter-in-law has stolen Adderall from our house on three separate occasions. My husband and I reluctantly suspected her after the second occurrence. Last weekend she was here again, and the pill bottle with eight pills in it was on my bathroom counter. When she left, four of them were missing.

What do I do with this information? I’m afraid if I confront her, she will alienate our son and grandkids from us. Do we talk to our son? We’re afraid he will be angry with us for blaming her. Or should I say nothing and buy a small safe for medications? I feel like it’s a no-win situation, but at the end of the day, I’m concerned she has a substance abuse problem. I don’t think she would normally steal things.

TAKEN FROM IN TEXAS

DEAR TAKEN FROM: Talk to your son in as non-accusatory a manner as you can manage. He should know that his wife may have a prescription drug problem and MAY be in need of help. You may also need to keep your eyes open regarding whether your daughter-in-law has been taking other items of yours. I think your idea about buying a small safe for your medications is an excellent one. Children like to explore, and sometimes houseguests have been known to explore their hosts’ medicine cabinets.

■■■■■

DEAR ABBY: I used to have a good relationship with

my brother-in-law “Anthony.” I hosted his birthdays and invited him for dinners on a regular basis. I would make sure to prepare his favorite dishes and pack him doggie bags for lunch the next day. When the other siblings visit, I host dinner for everyone.

Recently, Anthony sent a dinner invitation and said he will be serving only one dish, with no other options. Then he added that since I’m allergic to this dish, perhaps I would prefer to bring my own food. I was so put off that I have stopped hosting dinners at my home. Am I right to feel this way?

SEETHING IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR SEETHING: You are entitled to your feelings, but if you enjoy hosting dinners for your relatives, I would hate to see you cut off your nose to spite your face. Wouldn’t a more effective way to deal with Anthony be to tell him how his last invitation affected you in light of the fact that you have so generously provided for him in the past? It was extremely inconsiderate to have served a dish that he knew one of his guests might be allergic to.

■■■■■

DEAR ABBY: How does one prepare and support a family member who has been given a cancer death sentence? It was announced just over a week ago. We are a large, strongly united family, and this has hit us hard.

DEVASTATED IN ARIZONA

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR DEVASTATED: Take your cues from the person who received the diagnosis because everyone deals with their mortality in their own way. Offer to be supportive in any way you can, and check in often so you can support the spouse (if there is one) and each other. You are lucky to be a strongly united large family because it will enable you to divide the responsibilities among you if necessary.

■■■■■

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

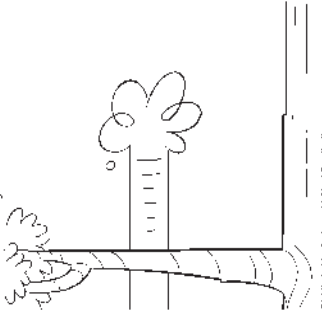
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

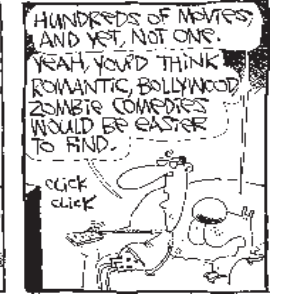
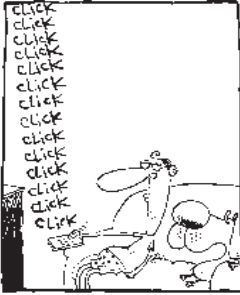


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

39 — Aviv
40 Toe
41 home count
42 Paper
43 bunch fastener
44 Diving duck
45 Hitching posts?
46 Taj Mahal
47 city
48 Work with
49 Whine
50 Naturalist John
51 Con-corde, e.g.
52 Egyptian deity
53 Laundry collector
54 Suggest
55 Altar in the sky
56 Airline to Sweden
57 Totals
58 Anony-mous
59 Terre Haute sch.
60 Wilde-beest
61 Green prefix
62 Members of rock bands
63 Tag sale words

DOWN

1 Mary's follower
2 Water, in Mexico
3 Hosp.
4 Winter coats
5 Wild horses
6 CIA
7 "Little Women"
8 "This Is — Tap"
9 Films not to be missed
10 Kazan of filmdom
11 Left on a map
12 Hosp. triage area
13 British verb ending
14 Bro or sis
15 "Born in the —"
16 Hot dog condiments
17 Indus-trious insect
18 Tom Selleck facial feature
19 "Nova" subj.
20 "Mayday!"
21 Music for seven
22 Unwell
23 Country song?
24 Chicago transport
25 Espy
26 Story
27 — St. Vincent Millay
28 Staffer
29 Num-bered rds.
30 Tax-payer IDs
31 Granola morsel

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterday's answer 5-4

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Rory McIlroy, 34; Erin Andrews, 45; Will Arnett, 53; Randy Travis, 64.

Happy Birthday: Channel your energy into making positive changes to your living arrangements or home environment. Take the initiative to improve your health and your relationships with others. A chance to develop a creative skill or to expand your relationship with someone you enjoy being around will improve your life and encourage you to take better care of yourself. Love is in the stars. Your numbers are 9, 13, 21, 26, 33, 37, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't pass up a chance to learn something new. Someone you encounter will have an impact on the decisions you make. Travel, communication and love are apparent but won't please those closest to you if they aren't included in your plans. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A hasty decision or action will cause emotional stress. Relax, take your time and refuse to let anyone pressure you to do something you are questioning. When in doubt, talk to someone you know will offer sound advice. Don't take a health risk. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Put everything you've got into your work and getting ahead; an opportunity to advance will unfold. A chance to earn more or receive a gift or grant looks promising. Set up a meeting with someone who has something to contribute to your plans. *****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Do your part and rewards will follow. Use your skills, knowledge and experience to help a

cause or someone in need. You don't have to spend to get ahead. Use insight and ingenuity to find solutions and everything will fall into place. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Do some research. Nothing stays the same forever, and it's important that you are aware of what's going on around you if you want to keep up. Take care of yourself and those you care about most. Choose love over conflict. 2 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Embrace what's new and exciting. Explore what you have in common with friends and peers and do your part to nurture meaningful relationships. Set high standards and refuse to let anyone take advantage of you. Strive for stability, security and equality. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Emotional and financial matters will escalate quickly if you get involved in a joint venture or agree to share expenses with someone unreliable. Examine your living arrangements and make changes that protect your interests. A reunion will stir up feelings and memories. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You'll be eager to take care of your responsibilities so you can move on to what inspires you. Get involved in a creative process that encourages positive lifestyle changes and better connections to those who bring out the best in you. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Spend more time analyzing the best way to lower debt and save money to avoid making unnecessary purchases. Refrain from sharing personal matters. Someone you least expect will reveal your secrets if given the opportunity. Put your energy into home improvement. ***

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Open your doors to friends and relatives. The feedback you receive will help you decide how to update your surroundings to fulfill your needs. A designated area to work out or to enjoy activities with friends and family will be a hit. **



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep your life simple, meaningful and cost-efficient. Don't feel obligated to go along with the decisions others make. Follow your heart and do what's best for you. Concentrate on being and doing your best, and opportunities will follow. Romance is encouraged. *****



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Put a solid financial plan in place and do whatever's necessary to ease stress. Sizing down, lowering your overhead or changing what isn't working for you anymore will shed light on the changes that will put a smile on your face. ***



Birthday Baby: You are secretive, imaginative and controlling. You are unpredictable and opportunity-driven.

☿: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ♀: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☼: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☽: Aim high; start new projects. ☹: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

6	3				7						
7		9	1	8						6	
4	8	5			6		7				
9			7			6					
					2		1				
			9			3		2			
		4	5								
9					3		8	4			
6		4			1						

Difficulty: ★★★

5/4

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's Answer

2	6	3	1	8	4	9	7	5
7	5	1	6	9	3	2	4	8
9	8	4	2	7	5	1	6	3
5	1	9	3	6	8	7	2	4
3	7	2	5	4	1	8	9	6
8	4	6	7	2	9	5	3	1
6	3	5	9	1	7	4	8	2
4	2	7	8	5	6	3	1	9
1	9	8	4	3	2	6	5	7

Difficulty: ★★★

5/5

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

CTAO BELLA! Solution: 10 letters

A	B	H	O	W	D	Y	U	A	T	S	U	M	A	K
E	D	N	O	P	S	E	R	U	T	S	E	G	G	I
N	N	I	M	O	R	U	O	J	N	O	B	S	N	N
E	O	C	O	A	H	I	N	D	R	B	E	U	I	D
L	I	E	L	S	Z	I	A	E	U	E	N	O	N	S
B	T	P	A	R	T	Y	C	O	G	R	V	Y	R	A
A	A	R	H	I	T	E	N	D	E	C	E	E	M	O
H	S	O	S	X	P	G	E	T	H	A	N	E	R	M
C	R	N	E	T	I	L	T	V	A	U	A	D	T	
A	E	T	I	O	W	E	V	O	L	T	W	O	A	
O	V	O	R	O	L	L	E	H	L	A	O	O	O	T
R	N	N	E	I	G	H	B	O	R	S	H	G	I	
P	O	K	C	U	L	D	O	O	G	A	S	D	A	O
P	C	O	N	S	I	D	E	R	A	T	E	T	O	N
A	W	I	H	C	I	N	N	O	K	A	E	P	S	N

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Acknowledge, Adios, Aloha, Approachable, Benvenuto, Bonjour, Buongiorno, Call, Considerate, Conversation, Gesture, Good Luck, Good Morning, Hallo, Hello, How Are You, Howdy, Kamusta, Kind, Konnichiwa, Letter, Love, Neighbor, Nice, Ni Hao, Nod, Note, Party, Pronto, Reception, Respond, Salutation, Salve, Shalom, Speak, Szia, Text Yesterday's Answer: Kiosks

The NEW Volume 70 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Davis, James deliver as Lakers top Curry, Warriors in Game 1



SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Anthony Davis had 30 points, 23 rebounds, five assists and four blocked shots, LeBron James added 22 points and 11 rebounds dueling with Stephen Curry in their latest postseason showdown, and the Los Angeles Lakers held off a late flurry by the Golden State Warriors to win an entertaining Game 1 in the Western Conference semifinals 117-112 on Tuesday night.

Jordan Poole missed a 3-pointer to tie it with 9.7 seconds left as the Warriors' rally in the closing minutes fell short. Curry's 3 with 1:38 left tied the game, then D'Angelo Russell answered right back before Davis blocked a shot by Curry moments later. James missed the first of two free throws with 1:05 to go.

Poole's 3 with 2:48 remaining cut the Lakers' lead to 112-109, and James was called for traveling with 1:53 left.

For all-time scoring leader James and Curry—who has the most 3-pointers ever—this is a new chapter in the long rivalry between the superstars after they faced off in four straight NBA Finals from 2015-2018 while James played for Cleveland.

Curry scored 27 points, Splash Brother Klay Thompson had 25, and Kevon Looney grabbed a career-high 23 rebounds for his fourth game of this postseason with 20 or more. He also had 10 points and five assists. Thompson made a 3 with 5:19 to go that cut the Lakers' lead to 112-104.

The defending champion Warriors will try to even the series in Game 2 on Thursday night back on their home floor at Chase Center, where LA fans could be heard chanting "Let's go Lakers!" after the final buzzer.

Curry's 3 with 9:38 left got



Los Angeles Lakers forward Anthony Davis (3) shoots while defended by Golden State Warriors forward Kevon Looney (5) during the first half of an NBA basketball Western Conference semifinal game, Tuesday, May 2, 2023, in San Francisco.

Golden State within 99-95, but the Lakers responded with two straight scoring possessions, including James' layup with 8:38 remaining.

Davis dominated from the opening tip, making 9 of his first 10 shots, while Russell scored 19 points and dished out six assists against his former team.

James' 3-pointer with 5:23 left in the third put the Lakers ahead by 10, 86-76. Then Thompson's snazzy behind-the-back pass led to a dunk by Gary Payton II over James with 3:48 to go as Golden State cut it to 86-80 and forced a Lakers timeout.

The Lakers finished off Memphis in six games Friday night and had a couple of extra recovery days to get ready as Golden State was pushed to the distance by the young Sacramento Kings and won Game 7 on Sunday. The Warriors were the first reigning champion to come back from behind 2-0 and win a playoff series.

Curry went off for a playoff career-high 50 points, an NBA

record for a Game 7. Warriors coach Steve Kerr said he thought his team had an advantage having just played two days earlier.

But the revamped Lakers took it to Golden State just as they did winning the final three regular-season matchups—and Los Angeles is a far different team than the one that lost 123-109 here on Oct. 18 to start the season.

The franchises' first playoff matchup since 1991 didn't disappoint. They hadn't played on the postseason stage since "Run TMC" Warriors led by Tim Hardaway, Mitch Richmond and Chris Mullin lost in the Western Conference semifinals to Magic Johnson and James Worthy.

Thompson was determined to come out hot in Game 1 after calling his 4-for-19 day in Game 7 on Sunday at Sacramento "disgusting." He's been waiting his whole life to play the Lakers on the big stage, too, and scored 18 by halftime with four 3s.

He, Curry and Poole each made six 3-pointers after a sea-

son in which all three reached 200 3s and Thompson 301.

Golden State is the sixth seed and the Lakers No. 7, marking the first time a No. 6 seed has home court in the second round since the sixth-seeded Houston Rockets against the No. 7 Seattle SuperSonics in 1987.

Curry dropped to 15-8 against James in the playoffs.

KNICKS 111, HEAT 105

NEW YORK (AP)—Jalen Brunson took the blame when the Knicks dropped the opener of the Eastern Conference semifinals and insisted he needed to be better in Game 2.

Halfway through, it appeared he wasn't.

Struggling again with his shot and this time a sore right ankle as well, Brunson told himself he needed to fight through it.

"Just kind of had to find a way to be mentally tough," he said. "Go out there and do it."

He did, getting New York back to even in the series.

Brunson scored 30 points Tuesday night and keyed the run the Knicks needed just in

time for a 111-105 victory over a Miami Heat team playing without Jimmy Butler.

Julius Randle returned from a sprained left ankle that sidelined him in Game 1 with 25 points, 12 rebounds and eight assists, and RJ Barrett scored 16 of his 24 points in the first quarter for the No. 5-seeded Knicks. Josh Hart finished with 14 points, 11 rebounds and nine assists.

"I thought Julius gutted it out, played tough. I thought Jalen was fantastic," Knicks coach Tom Thibodeau said. "RJ big, big start to the game for us, so we had a number of guys step up to get it done."

But it was Brunson, who was 0 for 7 from 3-point range in the opener, who made the biggest plays after going just 1 for 6 for seven points in the first half.

"It's who he is," Thibodeau said. "Great leader, great toughness. He never disappoints you. Sometimes you can fall short, but there's no quit in him."

Caleb Martin scored 22 points in place of Butler for the Heat, who host Game 3 on Saturday afternoon. They will hope to have Butler, the leading scorer in the playoffs who sat out after spraining his right ankle late in their 108-101 victory in the opener.

They almost didn't need him. Miami had a six-point lead midway through the fourth quarter thanks to undrafted players Martin and Gabe Vincent before Brunson, who had been listed as questionable after feeling ankle pain at the end of Game 1, took over.

He made a 3-pointer that became a four-point play when Isaiah Hartenstein was fouled on the play, and the point guard then scored to knot it at 93.

The Heat went back up 96-93 on Vincent's three free throws, but Hart tied it with a 3 before Brunson hit a 3 and scored again to make it 101-96 with 2:48 remaining.

Brunson went 6 of 10 behind the arc.

Butler is averaging 35.5 points in the postseason, finishing off the top-seeded Bucks in the first round with 56 and 42 points in the last two games. He had 25 points and 11 points in the opener of this series and almost watched his teammates pull this one out without him.

"Obviously we feel a certain way right now that we weren't able to find a way to get this win, but we'll get over it and we'll get ready for Saturday," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said.

Randle was originally hurt against the Heat in a victory March 29 after starting the first 77 games. He returned for the start of the playoffs but wasn't sharp for much of the series against Cleveland before reinjuring the ankle in the Game 5 clincher.

He was much better Tuesday for a Knicks team trying to advance to the Eastern Conference finals for the first time since 2000, when they got there after beating Miami in seven games.

"Whatever it takes to win the game," Randle said.

Randle had assists on two of the Knicks' first three baskets, with the Heat paying extra attention to him and leaving shooters open on the perimeter. But the No. 8-seeded Heat stayed right with them by making six 3-pointers and the Knicks led just 31-29 after one.

Like in the opener, the Heat dug in defensively from there. They limited the Knicks to just two baskets in the first 8 1/2 minutes of the second, building their lead to 46-38, and were ahead 54-51 at the break after Kevin Love's 3-pointer with 6.1 seconds remaining.

The Knicks finally went back into the lead when Brunson hit a couple 3s and then another basket, but Vincent's basket sent Miami to the fourth with a 77-76 edge.

By **DAN GELSTON**
AP SPORTS WRITER

Joel Embiid began the long process toward NBA MVP as a towering soccer prospect in Africa who never picked up a basketball until he was a teenager.

Once he changed sports for good, Embiid became a generational—albeit often-injured—talent. And, the affable center quickly became the face of the Philadelphia 76ers' rebuilding effort more commonly known as The Process.

He embraced the nickname and is introduced before every home game as Joel "The Process" Embiid.

Embiid can now add MVP.

The All-Star center and two-time league scoring champion, Embiid, who had long lobbied for the award, earned his first

76ers' Embiid wins league's top individual honor

NBA MVP trophy Tuesday night, topping two-time winner Nikola Jokic of the Denver Nuggets.

The 29-year-old from Yaoundé, Cameroon, averaged 33.1 points to win his second straight scoring title, averaged 10.2 rebounds and tied a career high with 4.2 assists per game. Embiid has been sidelined with a sprained right knee that cost him one game of the playoff sweep against Brooklyn and the opening game of the Eastern Conference semifinals against Boston, which was won by Philadelphia on Monday night.

Jokic finished runner-up in the MVP voting, and Giannis Antetokounmpo of the

Milwaukee Bucks was third. Embiid received 73 first-place votes. Jokic received 15 first-place votes, and Antetokounmpo got 12.

"It's been a long time coming," Embiid said. "A lot of hard work. I've been through a lot. I'm not just talking about basketball. I'm talking about my life. My story. Where I come from. How I got here and what it took for me to be here."

The 76ers watched on TV in Boston and erupted in applause and started chanting "MVP! MVP!" as the big man buried his head in his hands as he sat in a chair in the team hotel. Embiid was in tears as teammates James Harden, Tobias Harris and Tyrese Maxey

mobbed him in celebration.

Embiid then vowed "I'll be back" for the playoff series against the Celtics.

But as for Game 2 on Wednesday night?

"We shall see," Embiid said.

Play or not, there will be raucous celebration for Embiid once the 76ers return home Friday night for Game 3.

Embiid has been determined to win—and campaigned for—the MVP trophy for years. The third overall pick of the 2014 draft, Embiid missed his first two full seasons with injuries before settling in as one of the top big men of his generation. He was at his best this season when he totaled three 50-point games, including a

career-high 59 against Utah in November. He had 13 total 40-point games.

When Embiid totaled 52 points and 13 rebounds in a win against the Celtics in April, coach Doc Rivers boldly declared, "The MVP race is over."

Embiid certainly didn't argue that night with his coach or Sixers teammates who stumped on his behalf.

"They're probably right," Embiid said. "But we have bigger goals in mind."

His durability played a factor in the vote. Embiid played in 66 games, the second-highest total of his career, even though he has again been hit with injuries in the playoffs.

Embiid is the first 76er to win league MVP since Allen Iverson in 2001. Julius Erving in 1981, Moses Malone in 1983 and Wilt Chamberlain from 1966-1968 are other 76ers to win NBA MVP awards.

Embiid's injury, though, could be the deciding factor in the 76ers' chase for the NBA championship. The Sixers are trying to win their first NBA title since 1983 and advance past the second round for the first time since 2001—which was the last time a Sixer won the MVP award.

Allen Iverson was named league MVP in 2001. Other 76ers to capture the league's top individual award: Julius Erving, 1981; Moses Malone, 1983; and Wilt Chamberlain, 1966-1968.

Ramirez homers as Rays beat Pirates in matchup of top teams



ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.

(AP)—Harold Ramirez homered and drove in two runs to lead the Tampa Bay Rays over the Pittsburgh Pirates 4-1 on Tuesday night in a matchup of teams with the top two records in the major leagues.

Ramirez drove in the game's first run with an RBI single in the fourth and boosted the lead to 4-1 with a solo homer in the sixth against Roansy Contreras (3-2). Contreras allowed four runs and six hits in 5 1/3 innings.

Tampa Bay left-hander Josh Fleming lay in the fifth after taking Ke'Bryan Hayes' hard-hit single off his left foot. The Rays said initial images didn't show a fracture.

Colin Poche (3-0) replaced Fleming in the fifth and gave up a double to Bryan Reynolds and Carlos Santana's tying sacrifice fly. Hayes called safe on a close play at the plate that stood after a video review. Jason Adam worked the ninth for his first save this season.

ORIOLES 11, ROYALS 7

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Ryan Mountcastle hit two-run homers in consecutive innings and finished with five RBIs, Adley Rutschman had four hits and drove in a run, and the streaking Baltimore earned its 16th win in the last 20 games.

Tyler Wells (2-1) allowed three hits over six innings but they were all homers: Bobby Witt Jr.'s leadoff rocket, a two-run homer by MJ Melendez and a solo shot by Salvador Perez. Wells also walked three and struck out four.

Ryan Yarbrough (0-4) matched a Royals record by striking out the first five Baltimore batters, including Mountcastle, before things fell apart in the fourth. The power-hitting first baseman followed a double by Rutschman with his first two-run homer, and Yarbrough was pulled after 3 2/3 innings as the Orioles batted through the lineup and scored five times.

Mountcastle added another two-run shot off Jose Cuas in the fifth, his eighth homer of the season, then added a run-scoring double in the sixth.

BRAVES 6, MARLINS 0

MIAMI (AP)—Bryce Elder outpitched NL Cy Young Award winner Sandy Alcantara by throwing seven innings of three-hit ball and Atlanta shut out Miami.

Ozzie Albies homered and doubled, while Ronald Acuña Jr. doubled, drove in a run and stole his NL-leading 14th base for the Braves. Elder (3-0) struck out six and induced 10 groundouts in his longest start

of the season.

Alcantara (1-3) has a 7.40 ERA and lost three of his four starts since throwing a complete game shutout against Minnesota on April 4.

The Braves chased Alcantara after five innings and 103 pitches. Alcantara gave up three runs, six hits, walked three, struck out five and hit two batters.

ROCKIES 3, BREWERS 2

DENVER (AP)—Elias Díaz homered and drove in the go-ahead run with an eighth-inning single, and Colorado has won its last two home games after dropping seven straight at Coors Field.

Rookie shortstop Ezequiel Tovar hit his first major league home run for Colorado.

C.J. Cron led off the eighth with a double off Peter Strzelecki (2-1), and Díaz singled to bring home pinch-runner Yonathan Daza.

Justin Lawrence (1-1) worked a scoreless eighth and Pierce Johnson handled the ninth for his fourth save.

RANGERS 6, DIAMONDBACKS 4

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Ezequiel Duran hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in the sixth inning, and Texas matched its longest winning streak of the season at four.

Marcus Semien and Travis Jankowski cut the deficit to 4-3 with RBI singles in the fifth off Zac Gallen, who entered the game with a 28-inning scoreless streak, the longest in the big leagues.

Scott McGough (0-3) relieved to start the sixth and allowed a two-out single to Jonah Heim. Duran drove a 1-1 fastball 431 feet to center for his third homer this season and a 5-4 lead. Duran finished a triple shy of the cycle.

Brock Burke (2-0) pitched 1 1/3 hitless innings, and Will Smith got four outs for his fourth save.

Rangers starter Jon Gray gave up four runs and eight hits in 5 1/3 innings, raising his ERA to 4.40.

RED SOX 7, BLUE JAYS 6

BOSTON (AP)—Connor Wong hit two homers, including a tie-breaking solo shot in the eighth, to help Boston rally past Toronto.

Masataka Yoshida and Christian Arroyo also homered for Boston and the Red Sox tied a season-high for hits with 14, including four by Wong.

Wong also had a double in the second that bounced just below the yellow line at the top of Fenway Park's iconic left-field wall.

Reliever Richard Bleier (1-0) got the win and Josh



Tampa Bay Rays' Harold Ramirez celebrates his solo home run off Pittsburgh Pirates starting pitcher Roansy Contreras with Christian Bethancourt (14) during the sixth inning of a baseball game Tuesday, May 2, 2023, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Winckowski picked up his first save. Erik Swanson (1-1) took the loss.

Daulton Varsho hit a three-run homer for the Blue Jays in the sixth and Vladimir Guerrero Jr. finished with a pair of singles and two RBIs.

WHITE SOX 3, TWINS 2, 10 INNINGS

CHICAGO (AP)—Andrew Benintendi robbed Carlos Correa of a homer and hit a game-ending single in the 10th inning, and Chicago earned its second straight win after a 10-game losing streak.

Hanser Alberto opened the 10th on second as the automatic runner and advanced on Elvis Andrus' sacrifice. Tim Anderson bounced to shortstop and Benintendi lined a clean single into left against Caleb Thielbar (0-1).

Eloy Jiménez homered and Michael Kopech pitched six effective innings for the White Sox.

Jimmy Lambert (2-1) pitched a scoreless 10th for the win, which came hours after the White Sox made 11 roster moves.

Minnesota wasted another stellar performance by Joe Ryan, who pitched six scoreless innings. Ryan allowed one hit, struck out seven and walked two, lowering his ERA to 2.37.

DODGERS 13, PHILLIES 1

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Bryce Harper went 0 for 4 with three strikeouts in his return to the Phillies just 160 days after Tommy John surgery, and Philadelphia lost to Los Angeles as Julio Urias allowed one hit and struck out

10 in seven innings.

Miguel Vargas had four hits as the Dodgers scored 13 runs for the second straight night and set a season high with 17 hits.

The only hit Urias (4-3) allowed was a home run to Trea Turner to lead off the fourth inning.

Vargas and Mookie Betts both drove in three runs, and Freddie Freeman had a two-run homer in the eighth.

Betts had three hits and is 9 for 21 over the past five games. His two-run single on a full count off Matt Strahm (2-3) in the second inning just got under the glove of Phillies second baseman Bryson Stott and extended the Dodgers' lead to 3-0. Betts then lined an RBI base hit to center in the fourth to make it 4-1.

GIANTS 2, ASTROS 0

HOUSTON (AP)—Anthony DeSclafani pitched eight scoreless innings and Camilo Doval completed the three-hitter to lead San Francisco over Houston.

Blake Sabol had an RBI double and Thairo Estrada added two hits to help San Francisco snap a four-game skid.

DeSclafani (3-1) had retired 11 in a row after a double by Yanier Diaz with one out in the third before Yordan Alvarez doubled with one out in the seventh.

But he was left stranded when DeSclafani retired José Abreu and Kyle Tucker to end the inning.

REDS 2, PADRES 1, 10 INNINGS

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Jonathan India singled in the go-

ahead run on Luis Garcia's first pitch of the 10th inning and Cincinnati snapped San Diego's three-game winning streak.

India's single to left off Garcia (1-3) brought in automatic runner Matt Reynolds.

Alexis Diaz walked Trent Grisham opening the bottom of the inning but then struck out Fernando Tatis Jr., retired Manny Machado on a fly ball to left and caught Juan Soto looking at strike three to earn his fifth save.

Derek Law (1-4) pitched the ninth for the win.

ANGELS 5, CARDINALS 1

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Taylor Ward capped a four-run first inning with a three-run homer, Patrick Sandoval combined with three relievers on a four-hitter and Los Angeles beat St. Louis to extend the Cardinals' losing streak to four.

Mike Trout walked against Steven Matz (0-4) with one out in the first, Hunter Renfroe singled and Anthony Rendon hit a go-ahead single.

Sandoval (3-1), coming off a victory over Oakland, won back-to-back starts for the first time since last May. Making his first appearance against the Cardinals, he allowed three hits and three walks in five-plus innings with four strikeouts.

NATIONALS 4, CUBS 1

WASHINGTON (AP)—Alex Call hit a two-run double during a three-run seventh inning, and Washington beat Chicago.

CJ Abrams had the tiebreaking RBI single in the seventh off Keegan Thompson (1-2)

as part of a 3-for-3 night. Victor Robles followed with an infield hit and Call doubled to the gap in left-center to make it 4-1.

Trevor Williams, a former Cub, pitched into the sixth inning for Washington and departed with a 1-0 lead. Hunter Harvey (1-1) got the final out of the seventh, then allowed two baserunners in the eighth but got out of the inning when he caught Patrick Wisdom looking with a 98 mph fastball. Kyle Finnegan finished for his sixth save.

YANKEES 4, GUARDIANS 2

NEW YORK (AP)—Willie Calhoun snapped a seventh-inning tie with his first home run for New York, which beat Cleveland to stop a four-game slide.

Gerrit Cole settled down after a rocky start and rookie Anthony Volpe homered in the sixth to begin New York's comeback from a two-run deficit.

Cole struck out eight in six innings and remained unbeaten in seven starts this season with a 1.35 ERA. The right-hander needed 69 pitches to get through the first three innings but threw only 39 over the next three.

With one out in the seventh, Calhoun lined an 0-2 curveball from James Karinchak (0-4) to right field for his first major league home run since April 11 last year with Texas.

MARINERS 2, ATHLETICS 1

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—AJ Pollock homered to break up a combined no-hit bid with one out in the eighth inning and Jarred Kelenic added an RBI double as Seattle rallied past Oakland.

Oakland's Mason Miller pitched seven no-hit innings in his third major league start. He struck out six and walked four and was removed after 100 pitches.

Richard Lovelady (0-1) took over in the eighth with a 1-0 lead but took his first loss with the A's.

Seattle's Bryce Miller retired his first 16 batters in his major league debut before Tony Kemp singled on a shoulder-high pitch in the sixth. After a wild pitch and a flyout, Esteury Ruiz hit an RBI double to put Oakland ahead.

Bryce Miller struck out 10 in six innings, allowing one run and two hits. His 10 strikeouts were the most in a Mariners debut.

Gabe Speier (1-0) struck out the only batter he faced for his first big league win. Paul Sewald struck out two in a perfect ninth to remain perfect in eight save chances.

DMS only undefeated boys hoops team left

By LEIGH GASES

leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

DanDan Middle School is the only undefeated team left in the IT&E Interscholastic Boys Middle School Basketball League 2022-2023.

The Tottots defeated Hopwood Middle School, 25-13, on Monday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium for their sixth straight win.

In a hard-fought defensive game on both sides, the Tottots managed to shoot their way to victory.

The Hilitais, fresh off their first win of the season a week prior, wanted the win as much as the Tottots did—making moves toward the basket at every opportunity they had. Though they shot and missed most of the time, that didn't



LEIGH GASES

Hopwood Middle School's Kendrick Garcia, right, drives through DanDan Middle School's defense of Edward Manibusan during their game in the IT&E Interscholastic Boys Middle School Basketball League 2022-2023 last Monday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

stop them from trying to break through the Tottots' defenses.

It was a close first half as it ended with just a 3-point Tottots lead, 9-6. HMS' Carl Sanchez, Kendrick Garcia, and Dwayne Tabhan contributed

their team's points, while it was a good passing game for the Tottots as five of their players had markers of their own.

In the second half, the Hilitais were fatigued and their defense faltered, allowing more

baskets to be made by the Tottots. They couldn't find the basket either and were reduced to just 7 points as the Tottots dominated the paint with their defense and teamwork.

Garcia scored 3 more points, while Sanchez scored a field goal, and Chris Esdrelon was fouled and shot two free throws. That was all the Hilitais could muster and the lead widened as the Tottots continued to put the ball into the basket.

Dyson Danis banked 6 points, and Matthew Peters, Arvin Hornejas, Dane Tibayan, and another player scored 2 each in the second half for the Tottots, which was enough to seal their sixth win of the season.

The other DMS boys in the team are Jordan Agulto, Christopher Cruz, Aidi Danis, Matua Fejeran, Nigel Kochi, Edward Manibusan, Vincent Palacios, Kallan Seidler, Josh-

ua Yorormad, Rodney Tomei, and Louis Rectitud.

In other results that day, Saipan Community School won against Francisco M. Sablan Middle School, 24-18; Saipan International School won a lopsided game against Grace Christian Academy, 65-18; and Agape Christian School beat Mount Carmel School, 48-34.

As of Monday in the standings, DMS leads with six

wins; SIS is at 7-1; FMS and ACS are 6-2; ChaCha Ocean View Middle School have two wins and five losses; MCS has an even four wins and losses; SCS is at 3-4; TMS and HMS have one win and seven losses each; and GCA has yet to win with eight losses.

DMS 25 – Danis 6, Hornejas, Tibayan 4, Tomei 2, Rectitud 1.

HMS 13 – Garcia 4, Sanchez 4, Tabhan 3, Esdrelon 2.

Scoring by halves: 9-6; 25-13.

Old, has-been athletes sought to represent NMI



Interested master athletes (30-99 years old) throughout the CNMI are encouraged to register and begin training for the upcoming Oceania Masters Athletics (track and field) event being hosted by the CNMI with help from Northern Marianas Athletics.

The event is hosted by NMA, the governing body of athletics, cross country, and road races in the CNMI, with help from the Northern Marianas Sports Association.

Age divisions are separated into five-year spans, allowing master athletes the opportunity to compete against their peers throughout Oceania and Southeast Asia.

Masters events are 60m, 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1,500m, 5,000m, short hurdles, long hurdles, steeplechase, long jump, triple jump, high jump, shot put, discus throw, hammer throw, javelin throw, weight throw, 3,000m track walk, 5,000m track walk, throws pentathlon, pentathlon, heptathlon/octathlon, 10K road walk, cross country, and half marathon

Below are links to the event(s):

■ <https://athletics-oceania.com/mac-2023/>

■ <https://athletics-oceania.com/30/09/19346/>

■ Event & Technical Information:

■ https://docs.google.com/document/d/1m99svky5XHs8DiQcEzmysaB_z7QINOO/edit

Currently, NMA is conducting national team practices at the track Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 5pm to 8pm. The facility is also open to all masters athletes on Mondays, from 5pm to 8pm.

Upon the completion of the McDonald's All Schools Championship Series on May 6, NMA will continue conducting practices at the track on Saturdays, from 7am to 9am.

Should you have additional questions or want to volunteer to ensure successful delivery of this event, contact the Northern NMA at (670) 788-0929 or swing by the track. (PR)



Saipan International School and Run Saipan will host the 3rd Annual Star Wars Day Run in the CNMI this Saturday. But this year, it has a twist. Instead of May the 4th Be With You, this year it will be the Revenge of the Sixth, a tribute to Star Wars- Episode III- Revenge of the Sith, the sixth movie in the series.

The day will start off with the traditional NMI Jedi 5K run and a Sith 6K at 4:30pm. The Padawan 1 Miler for children 12 and under will start at 5pm. As usual, the kids' race is free of charge but there is also the option of registration with

3rd Annual Star Wars Day Run this Saturday

a medal for \$5. Anyone who registers through Racerooster will be able to download a finisher certificate. Registration is at: <https://racerooster.com/events/2023/74994/revenge-of-the-6th>.

Star Wars-themed costumes are encouraged for all participants and there will be NMI Jedis available for pictures on site.

This is a family friendly run for everyone in the CNMI that loves running, loves costumes and/or loves Star Wars. May the Force Be With You, NMI and Beware the Power of the Dark Side! (PR)



MARK RABAGO

The usual cast of Jedi masters join the unusual AT-AT Walker in last year's 2nd Annual Star Wars Day Run at the American Memorial Park.

OL'ACES

From Page 20

disaster as Rangamar let them "play" before just doing enough to preserve the 11-point win.

Riley Brungard and Preston Basa shared team-high honors for Ol'Aces with 14 points apiece, while the 25 points of Gelo Genese led Save More,

which dropped to 3-1 in the standings.

Earlier in Pool B action, Team Marianas handcuffed Socho in a low-scoring ballgame, 63-56.

Coby Santos and Don Brennan fired 16 and 14 points, respectively, to pace Team Marianas (3-1), while Athan Taisague and Henry Aguon scored a dozen apiece for Socho (1-3).

First Game

Team Marianas 63 – C. Santos 16, Brennan 14, G. Sablan 10, Raquepo 9, Garcia 4, J. Sablan 3, K. Santos 3, Richardson 2, Hocog 2, Aldan 2.

Socho 56 – Taisague 12, Aguon 12, Philip 11, Limes 10, Lizama 8, Pangelinan 3.

Scoring by quarters: 18-13, 28-27, 45-37, 63-56.

Second Game

Martech-Ol'Aces 89 – P. Basa 14, Brungard 14, Air. Atan 13, Lizama 8, Schmidt 8, Diaz 8, Kabiriel 5, T. Basa 4, Barcinas 4, Aif. Atan 3, Onopwy 2.

Save More 78 – Genese 25, Tekiupua 12, Jandoc 9, Tabora 8, Vicente 8, Dancel 7, Torres 5, Solis 4.

Scoring by quarters: 16-11, 43-29, 72-51, 89-78.

TAN

From Page 20

Paire FC 2, Eleven Tiger 2

Paire Football Club and Eleven Tiger ended their game in a 2-2 draw.

Paire drew first blood after the first half ended and was scored in the 50th minute by Daniel Matsunaga. Eleven Tiger's Jack Unsa then equalized it 10 minutes later, but then silence reigned for the next few minutes.

In the 74th minute, Paire's Phillip Magino sprang forward with the leading goal, but then, another 10 minutes later, Jimmy Lin tied up the game once more.

No more goals were made and the game ended in a stalemate.

MPU FC 1, Kanoa FC 0

MPU Football Club slipped a goal past Kanoa Football Club for a 1-0 win.

Dylan Mister scored the goal for MPU in the 43 minute and that was all she wrote

as Kanoa couldn't put past one MPU's goalie.

MSL 2 Matansa FC 5, Old B Bank 2

In Marianas Soccer League 2 also played last Friday, Matansa outscored Old B Bank, 5-2.

Jordan Ruiz completed a hat-trick while teammates Jacob Arkoh and Arif Khan scored the two other goals.

Old B Bank's two goals were made by John Canape in the 62nd minute and the second one was made in the

74th minute.

Shirley's FC 13, MP United FC 0

Shirley's Football Club 1 managed to silence MP United, 3-0.

Jack Phan took the lead and rolled with it and scored a hat-trick—one goal in the second minute, then 19th, and then the 36th minute. MP United FC could not retaliate and ended the game without scoring a goal.

Meanwhile, Chang Bai Hu doubled the Women's Development Team, 6-3 in the first MSL 2 game of the day.

LADY

From Page 20

in the third inning after a lead off base hit by Christie Aldan started the avalanche of five runs.

Deleon Guerrero got her bearings straight and it showed it was just a fluke in the first innings as she proceeded to shut down the Hotshots in four consecutive innings—allowing only two hits to Daisy Kaipan and Janica Lizama.

The Hotshots then tied the game up, 5-5, in the sixth inning when Lizama hit a triple and was brought home by a single from Rona Lemfiisch Ogomoro.

On the Lady Blue Jays' last shot, they found a way to bring home five runs after an inside-the-park two-RBI home run by Bong Babauta, followed by runs by Keolani Rios, Destiny Pangelinan, and Keanu Aldan.

They held onto the lead and the win after the Hotshots

could only bring in two runs after what looked like a rally after an inside-the-park home run by Rosie Saralu. The Lady Blue Jays pitcher was then backed up by her defense as they caught the last two outs of the game.

The Lady Legals had an easier time against BDE as they shut them down in the next six innings after their first and only run was scored in the first. BDE's Ikelaui Ngirarois got on base and was brought in by Keyona Tude-la's single. After that, BDE's offense was nonexistent.

As for the Lady Legals, one run was made in the first inning then two in the fourth. Six runs were made in the fifth after a lead off walk by Julie Guerrero.

A subsequent error allowed her to get into scoring position and was brought in by Almina Guerrero. Five more singles that rounded the bases plus one more run in the last inning allowed them to end the game at 10 runs.



Davis, James
deliver as Lakers
top Curry, Warriors
in Game 1.
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Saipan Tribune Sports

DMS only
undefeated boys
hoops team left.
PAGE 19



20 THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2023

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

IN BATTLE OF UNBEATEN TEAMS

Ol'Aces outduels Save More



MARK RABAGO
Martech-Ol'Aces' Douglas Schmidt goes for an uncontested layup against Save More in the 2023 Michelob Ultra Cup Men's Islandwide Basketball League last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By **MARK RABAGO**
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Martech-Ol'Aces remained the only unbeaten team in Pool A of the 2023 Michelob Ultra Cup Men's Islandwide Basketball League after scuttling Save More, 89-78, Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Ol'Aces spotted Save More in the first few minutes of the ballgame, 8-0, before the latter settled down and were down by just a manageable 5 points, 11-16, after the first quarter.

Coach Elias Rangamar's team, however, again went on an offensive tear in the second, while Save More was stuck in the mud and trailed,

43-29, at the half.

Save More, well, couldn't really save itself from Ol'Aces' onslaught at the start of the second half as they saw themselves buried under a ton of points, 72-51, heading into the fourth and final quarter.

But following the script of their previous three games, Ol'Aces again flirted with
See OL'ACES on Page 19



Tan Holdings blanks Hana in MSL1

By **LEIGH GASES**
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REPORTER

Marianas Soccer League
Tan Holdings blanked Hana, 11-2, in the 2023 Spring Marianas Soccer League 1 last Sunday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

From the outset, it was clear Tan Holdings were in control of the game. Their passing was crisp and accurate, and their offense worked together seamlessly for multiple scoring opportunities.

It didn't take long for the first goal to come in the fourth minute from the cleats of Anthony Bergancia. From



In this file photo, Tan Holdings' Ronnel Ocanada goes for a kick during their game in the Marianas Soccer League 1 at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

there, the floodgates opened, with Tan Holdings scoring goal after goal in quick succession.

Hana, to their credit, tried their hardest to make a comeback, but they were simply no match to Tan Holdings' defenses.

As the game progressed, Tan Holdings' Isiah Barcinas and Heman Addy completed a hat-trick each, Mark Patubo scored two, and Monico Claridades contributed one goal.

By the time the final whistle blew, the scoreboard read 11-0 with Hana unable to put a goal through Tan Holdings' goal.

See TAN on Page 19

Lady Blue Jays, Lady Legals notch victories

By **LEIGH GASES**
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REPORTER

The Lady Blue Jays and the Lady Legals notched wins in the 2023 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League at the DanDan Softball Field last Sunday.

With their 10-7 win against the Hotshots, the Lady Blue Jays are undefeated with eight wins, while the Lady Legals shutdown

BDE, 10-1.

Hotshots drew first blood in the evenly matched game as they clipped four runs off of Lady Blue Jays pitcher

Angel Deleon Guerrero with singles from the top of the lineup

The Lady Blue Jays could not get past Hotshots pitcher Janice Celis as they dropped 1-2-3 in order in the first and second inning. However, their offense exploded

See LADY on Page 19



Majority of the undefeated Lady Blue Jays team poses for a photo after their win against the Hotshots in the 2023 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League last Sunday at the DanDan Softball Field.

LEIGH GASES